

**Expose Kidnap Plot to Keep  
Labor Attorney Off  
L.A. City Ballot!**

# Western Worker

PEOPLE'S CHAMPION OF LIBERTY, PROGRESS AND PEACE

**New Features — Reminiscences  
of Calif. Labor—Page 4;  
Workers History of Calif.—P. 7**

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## SHIPOWNERS, AIRCRAFT CO. BOUGHT GAS

**La Follette Civil  
Liberties Group  
Ignored in Press**

**SAN FRANCISCO**—The San Francisco Central Labor Council will petition Congress to grant adequate appropriations for the La Follette Committee.

**WASHINGTON**—The La Follette Civil Liberties Committee has received information listing all California companies and municipal authorities which have purchased tear gas and machine guns for use against workers.

(NOTE—It is interesting to note that California daily papers have not seen fit to publish this information.)

Included among purchasers of tear gas and machine guns are the Douglas Aircraft Co. in Santa Monica; American-Hawaiian and other steamship companies. Gas sales reported in California included:

Arcadia — Los Angeles Turf Club; Avon — Associated Oil Co.; Bakersfield — Police Department; Berkeley — Police Department; Beverly Hills — Clyde T. Ewing, John Barrymore estate; Police Dept.; Brawley — City Police Dept.; Chico — City Coronado — Chief of Police, I. J. Smith; Culver City — Police Dept.; Dinuba — Police Dept.; El Centro — Golden Valley Prod. Co.; Hall Packing Co.

**Lumber Companies**  
Imperial County — Charles Freedman; Elmonte — Pacific R. and H. Chemical Corp.; Eureka (Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

## S.F. LABOR AIDS MODESTO BOYS

**Council to Petition California  
Assembly for Release**

**SAN FRANCISCO**—The San Francisco Central Labor Council has voted to petition the State Assembly for an immediate pardon to six of the Modesto prisoners.

The I.L.A. 38-79 resolution which was adopted called attention to the revelations of the Assembly investigating committee headed by Rep. Samuel Yorty, which showed beyond a doubt that subornation of the jury and employment of every frameup method known was resorted to by Stanislaus County District Attorney Cleary and Standard Oil in the dynamite possession frameup of the tanker seamen. are demanded for Fitzgerald, Stanfield, Cimabrelli, Sousa, Johnson and Burrows and leniency for Buyle and Roger.

## 5000 Sign To End E. Bay Picket Act

**OAKLAND**—It has proven an easy job for Alameda County organized labor to obtain three times the amount of signatures necessary to put repeal of the local anti-picket law on the April municipal ballot. More than 5000 signatures have been gotten, according to Labor Council Secretary Spooner. Only 1700 were needed.

Spooner filed in City Hall a petition Saturday to put repeal on the ballot.

**Can You Answer  
These?**

- 1—How many states have ratified the Child Labor Amendments?
- 2—What U. S. Steel plants is the CIO Steel Workers Organizing Committee out to organize in California?
- 3—Who is Philip Murray?
- 4—What unions comprise the Maritime Federation of the Pacific Coast?
- 5—How many American railroad workers are organized?

(See Page 7)

## MURDERED



**RAS DESTA DEMTU**, son-in-law of Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, who was murdered by Mussolini's Fascists.

## Strike on WPA Looms

**Alliance Joint Strike  
Committee Is  
Elected**

Threatened with the laying off of 28,700 workers from WPA in California and the possible complete shutdown of SEKA following drastic cuts in the rolls ordered by the California State Relief Commission February 27 the Workers Alliance Executive Committee of Alameda, Contra Costa and San Francisco Counties have decided that strike action or the threat of it is the only means to prevent wholesale cutting of relief.

A Joint Strike Committee has been elected composed of ten members, five from each side of the bay.

**Cardinal Demands**  
Two cardinal demands are being raised, for a 10 per cent raise and no layoffs on WPA. Other demands are for a \$5,000,000 emergency appropriation from the legislature and trade union rates of pay, with a minimum rate of 75 cents per hour (Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

## CIO Spreads Work of Organizing Calif.

California power workers will be organized into the CIO, on industrial lines, according to an announcement by President Glasson of the executive board of the Utility Gas and Electric Workers' Union, which has affiliated with the United Electrical and Radio Workers' Union.

At a meeting of PG&E workers, Glasson said, 3000 men pledged to join the union. Organizers will sign up Southern California Edison and Midland Counties workers as well as PG&E.

Formation of an East Bay CIO committee is announced. It will organize steel, auto, oil and other industries. Frank Slaby of the Auto Workers is chairman; Pat Lydon, vice-chairman; James Smith, Machinists' 284, director, and Miles Humphreys, secretary.

Slaby said the committee does not regard itself as dual to the AFL, but will cooperate with all craft and other AFL groups in organization work.

Charges against Slaby and Humphreys, arrested last week on vagrancy charges in a crude frameup attempt, have been dismissed.

The two CIO organizers may sue Thorvald Brown for false arrest.

## Eureka to Ballot On Water System

**EUREKA**—This city will ballot March 30 on a proposed bond issue to provide an additional \$625,000 to complete the city's Mad River water system, now under construction.

It is not yet known whether attempts once made to halt the work, led by ex-state senator Nelson, will again be made.

## SPAIN READY TO BEAT OFF MASS ATTACK

**New Troops Brought  
To Madrid Front  
From Malaga**

**MADRID**—Unified defenses on the Central Front stand ready to meet an expected major Fascist assault on Madrid.

Eighteen thousand Italian troops have been brought up to the front from Malaga and Bilbao. The loyalist command announced that it is expecting the assault as soon as weather permits it.

Meanwhile, government artillery was clearing out the last of the Fascist forces which had barricaded themselves in the Clinico hospital on the outskirts of Madrid.

Fascist air attacks continued on the Jarama front southeast of Madrid and in a wide semicircle around Madrid.

The government destroyer Jose Luis Diaz beat off an insurgent cruiser and captured an Estonian vessel which was reported carrying munitions for the Fascists, with the cruiser in escort. The capture took place off the coast of Bilbao.

**Doubt Cargo Lost**  
**WASHINGTON**—Persons close to the Spanish government, declared they doubted that the Mar Cantabrico's cargo of planes and munitions were lost when the ship was sunk. They said a definite plan had been made to transfer the cargo at sea to another ship, to trick the Fascists.

## INSIST WEAVER RETRACT LIES

**California Communist Party  
Hits Slander**

A public retraction has been demanded by the Communist Party of California, of Joseph B. Weaver, chief of the U. S. Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation, who in Copeland Act hearings last week asserted the Party had participated in a sea murder plot.

A wire branding the Weaver statement false has been sent to Congressman Sirovich. The wire follows:

March 7, 1937.  
Congressman William Sirovich,  
(Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

## Richmond Meet by Peoples Lobby

**MARTINEZ**—A mass meeting in Richmond on March 19 will carry forward the work of the newly-formed Contra Costa Peoples Legislative Conference.

The meeting was planned by the executive board last Friday. A finance and publicity committee has been elected and leaflets explaining the aims of the conference will be issued on a mass scale. Letters will be sent to all unions and civic organizations inviting affiliation to the conference.

Senator De Lap and Assemblyman Suwallisch will be invited to speak in Richmond and endorse the Legislative conference bills.

## 25 Years Ago—1912

**MARCH 13**  
**SOUTH POLE** is discovered by Amundsen, Norwegian explorer.

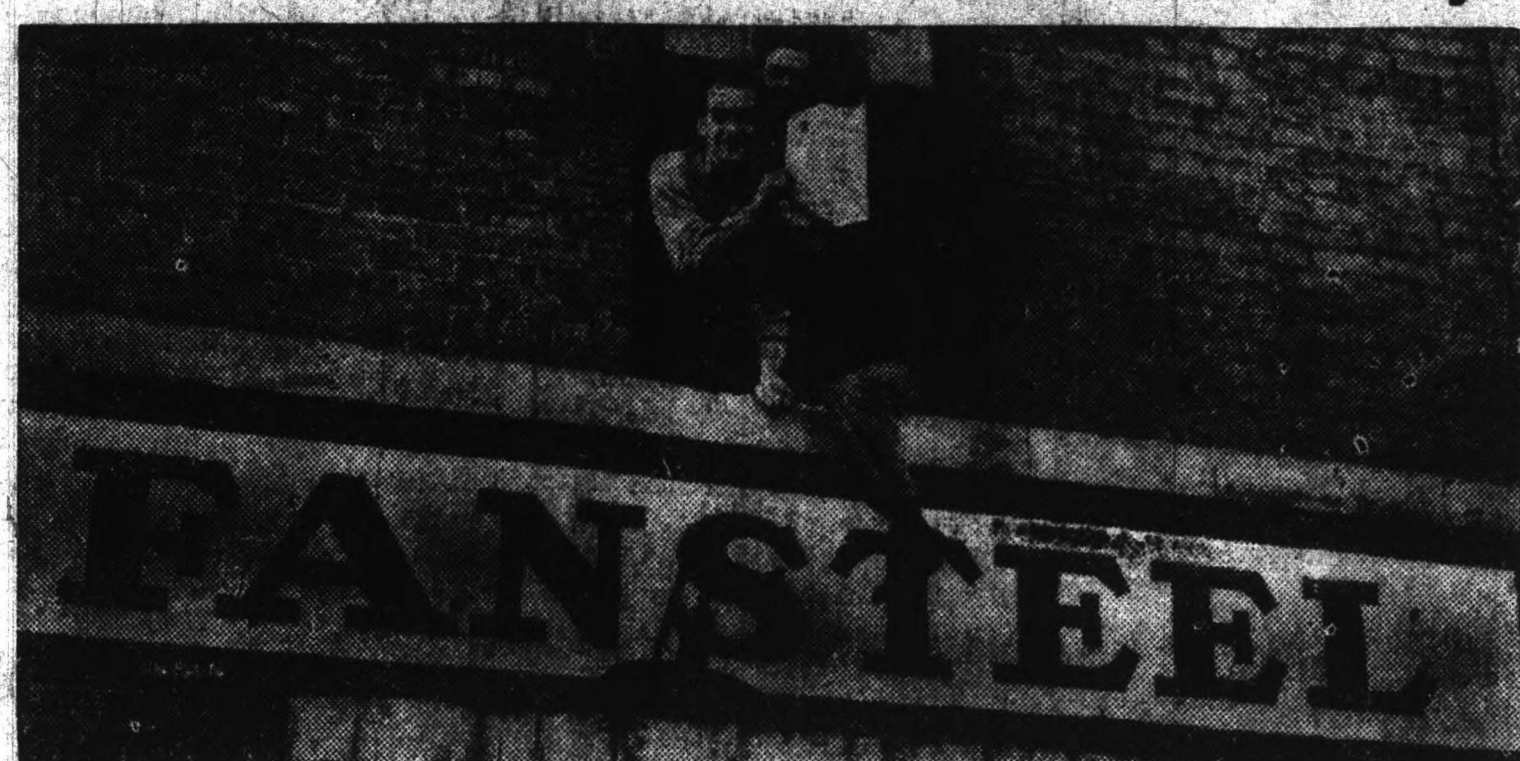
**SAN FRANCISCO** — Central Labor Council to oppose merger of two telephone companies.

**MARCH 14**  
**SAN FRANCISCO**—Olaf A. Tveitmo and Eugene A. Clancy, labor leaders, take steps to fight extradition to Indianapolis in dynamiting frameup.

**MARCH 15**  
**LOS ANGELES** — A Burns agent named McLaren reports that J. B. McNamara is threatened with death due to heavy work in the San Quentin jute mill.

# Cal. Councils Reject Expulsion of C. I. O.

**A Lesson in the Need for a Farmer-Labor Party**



**SITDOWN STRIKERS** at the Fansteel Metallurgical Corp. plant, Waukegan, Ill., exhibit the injunction which ordered them to leave the plant. They stayed in, until \$3000 worth of vomit gas was used by local police to evict them and all union members were ordered arrested. They saw Democratic and Republican party judges, city officials and county officials work against them at every turn—and it was a lesson in the need for a Farmer-Labor Party, whose office-holders would not issue or enforce injunctions, nor use the police against the unions.

## NEVADA COUNTY VIGILANTES IN ANTI CIO MOVE

**Smeltermen's Union Fast Organizing Ore Diggers**

**GRASS VALLEY**—The vigilantes are threatening to tar, feather and otherwise terrorize again. This time, they're being led by the Chamber of Commerce, against the CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union, which is fast organizing Nevada County's 2000 miners.

About 7000 vigilantes held a midnight meeting in Memorial Hall last Friday. Loyce Freeman, president of the Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce, presided at the meeting. He said the vigilantes will concentrate their efforts against Mine, Mill and Smelter local 283, the Twin Cities local.

The vigilantes showed in whose (Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

## U.S. Strike Wave Is Intensified

While craft union leaders on the AFL Executive Council further expressed their futility by threatening a boycott against goods made by members of all CIO unions intensity of the nation-wide strike wave grew.

New sit-down strikes began in Chevrolet plants in Flint, Michigan. The strike of 2500 steel workers in Bethlehem Steel plants at Lebanon threatened to extend to nearby Steelton. The steel workers demand CIO recognition. The strike spread to iron mines at Cornwall.

In Oakland, six Warehousemen's Union pickets were arrested when strikers and scabs clashed at the California Packing Co. Monday.

In San Francisco a strike of 800 Yellow Taxi employees seemed averted only by granting of a \$4.50 scale.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

## Western Worker Drive

# Speedy Work Needed in Drive

An open letter from the State Committee of the Communist Party to all readers of the WESTERN WORKER, points out the need for speedy results in the \$12,000 drive. It follows:

**Dear Western Worker Reader:**  
Hundreds of you, who are not organizationally connected with the Communist Party, welcome every issue of the "Western Worker." You read with interest of the ever-increasing struggles of the labor movement. You follow eagerly the historic developments in the people's struggle against Fascism. You have come to realize

## BRIDGES QUILTS S. F. HOSPITAL

**SAN FRANCISCO**—Here's news to cheer the maritime workers!

Harry Bridges has left St. Luke's Hospital, where for almost three weeks he has been undergoing treatment for stomach ulcers which were aggravated by arduous duties in the 99-day maritime strike.

## AGREE SEAMEN MAY TURN DOWN COPELAND BOOK

**Certificate Can't Contain Entries of Record**

**WASHINGTON** — Provisions that seamen may accept or reject the Copeland continuous discharge books at will, without discrimination by the shipowner, were agreed upon here as a final solution to the dispute over the "fink" books.

As an alternative seamen may accept a certificate containing photo, fingerprints, and other means of identification, but no entries of any sort, such as regarding record.

Such a recommendation will be made to the House by the committee on merchant marine and fisheries, as a proposal satisfactory to the government and rank and file seamen. Sen. Royal Copeland, author of the act calling for the "fink" books, was reported agreeable to the proposal, thus assuring passage in the Senate.

At hearings before the House committee at which representatives of the rank and file seamen, and government officials testified, the seamen contended that the Copeland books constitute a blacklist of union men.

## SENATE GROUP IS FOR OIL PIRACY

**SACRAMENTO**—A senate investigating committee is proposing that big oil companies be given a free hand in piracy of tideland oil lands owned by the State.

The committee recommends that the State carry out agreements with trespassing oil companies drilling on state tidelands.

No recommendation was made that the State do its own drilling, as was demanded by Senator Culbert Olsen of Los Angeles.

The Contra Costa Central Labor Council has taken the same action. The Vallejo Council pledged to endorse the work of the conference financially and morally.

# Green Edict Filed in S.F., Kern County

**Stinging Rebuke to Executive Council's  
Splitting Actions; CIO Achievements  
Lauded by Craft Unionists**

**WASHINGTON**—A CIO meeting here, to start Tuesday, March 9, is expected to result in tremendously important decisions.

**SACRAMENTO**—The Central Labor Council in Sacramento has voted to file William Green's letter aimed at expulsion of the CIO unions from labor bodies.

**BAKERSFIELD**—Unanimously filed without comment! Such was the scornful reply of the Kern County Central Labor Council to the letter from William Green ordering the disaffiliation of all unions affiliated with the CIO.

The delegates felt that the CIO unions have done nothing to warrant expulsion.

In Oakland, a motion to concur in President Green's attack on the CIO, was defeated in the Central Labor Council by a 3-1 voice vote, after an amendment to lay it on the table for two weeks was defeated 71-49. The letter on Green's expulsion from the UMW was rejected by a 3-1 voice vote.

**SAN FRANCISCO**—The San Francisco Central Labor Council has administered a stinging rebuke to William Green's splitting policies, voting 4 to 1 to table Green's letter which in effect called for expulsion of CIO unions from state federations and central labor bodies.

The vote to file was 158 to 44. Most of the craft union delegates voted against Green's proposals.

**See Through Plan**  
Under the guise of "renewing their pledge of loyalty to the AFL," the Green letter called for endorsement of "such actions as the facts may justify against any individuals or organizations extending support to any CIO organizations."

Secretary O'Connell immediately called for a vote on the matter. (Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

## Solons To Debate Mooney Pardon

**SAN FRANCISCO** — Herbert Resner, attorney and secretary of the San Francisco Bay Area AFL Committee for the Freedom of Mooney and Billings, in a letter printed in Sunday's San Francisco Chronicle, denied charges of Attorney General U. S. Webb that an Assembly pardon for Mooney would be illegal.

Resner said: "The constitution of California provides that 'neither the governor nor the legislature shall have power to grant pardons' in any case where the convict has been twice convicted of a felony unless upon written recommendation of a majority of the Judges of the Supreme Court."

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

# HINT DOUGLAS FRAMEUP IN FITTS SHOOTING

**But Few Are Fooled;  
Douglas Strikers  
Tighten Apparatus**

(See Page 2 for Further Douglas News)

**LOS ANGELES**—Very few people are being kidded by the attempt to link up the shooting of District Attorney Buron Fitts with the Douglas Aircraft strike, or with "radicals."

Fitts' well known intimate connection with graft and racketeering gangs leaves little doubt as to who took the pot-shot at Fitts. The D. A. was struck in the forearm. The shooting was the work of four men in a car.

Fitts claims he received threatening calls after his arrest and indictment of 345 Douglas sit-down strikers. The so-called (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

## Probe on Power Co. Politics Shelved

**SACRAMENTO**—Thanks to influence among reactionary assemblymen, the power interests are breathing a bit easier today.

The Assembly Public Utilities Commission has voted to table a resolution calling for investigation of the political connections and rate structure of the power companies.

Assemblyman Patterson of King City introduced the resolution. Aim of the resolution was to obtain data as a basis for legislation in 1939 for state acquisition of utilities.

## Vandeleur's \$163 Watch Turns Out To Be Non-Union

**SAN FRANCISCO**—Would you call this irony? The \$163 watch presented recently by the officers of Labor Council to Ed Vandeleur on his retirement as president, now turns out to be a non-union watch. What's more, the Jewelry Workers' Union delegate in the Council reports that the watch could have been bought in a union house.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)



## LEO GALLAGHER ASKS FITTS SOME PERTINENT QUESTIONS REGARDING DOUGLAS ARRESTS

*The D.A. Uses the Law in Strange Ways, To Suit the Convenience of the Interests Whose Lickpittle He Happens to Be*

LOS ANGELES—Protesting the vicious grand jury indictment that District Attorney Buron Fitts obtained to arrest 345 aircraft strikers at the Douglas plant last Thursday, Leo Gallagher, famous International Labor Defense attorney has written the following letter to Fitts:

"I observe from the press that you got all heated up about defending the Constitution. It is common knowledge in the United States that for years, while civil liberties were being raped here in Los Angeles, you had nothing to say. You allowed the Los Angeles Police Department to scrap the Bill of Rights. But as soon as property rights are involved, you immediately get into a lather.

### Strange Contrast

"Last summer I tried to get your office to do something towards protecting individuals who were beaten up in the Sheriff's substations. Through handy co-operation of your office, identification of the responsible deputy sheriffs at the Whittier substation was made impossible, and your chief deputy refused to issue John Doe warrants, because such a thing would be illegal.

"It is strange how flexible the law is when you can get out hundreds of John Doe warrants when property rights are involved.

"You require \$1,000 bail for responsible workmen, whose only offense is that they are attempting to establish a minimum standard of living so as to be able to support wives and children. A \$10 bail would be adequate in such a case. To require \$1,000 bail from striking workers is again to violate constitutional guarantees.

"You received the endorsement of the Labor fakirs of Los Angeles on the theory that you were a worthy candidate for the office of District Attorney.

Basing your judgment on the endorsement of the reactionary forces such as the Los Angeles Times, you may think that you are getting places, but be assured "The old order changeth, giving place to new" and it will not be long before you and the other public officials who ignore human rights to protect property rights will be relegated to the limbo of forgotten men."

## U. S. Strike Wave Is Intensified

(Continued from Page 1)

A sit-down at National Youth Administrative offices in San Francisco Monday ended when it was agreed that transfers to other projects would not entail a wage cut.

A strike of 350 wholesale butcher and egg employees in San Francisco is scheduled for next Monday evening, 5:00 to 7:00 a. m. and a 40-hour week is granted Butchers' Union members.

The 110 workers of USL Battery in Oakland won their 15-day strike when an 8-cents-an-hour wage increase was granted the Federal local members.

John P. Frey, head of the AFL Metal Trades Dept., reached the ultimatum in treachery when he left for Pittsburgh to aid the Carnegie-Illinois Steel Company union in its fight against the CIO.

Sit-down strikes in Detroit and Flint plants of Chrysler, Hudson and General Motors affected 75,000 workers. They were called to force speedy settlement of the demands of the United Auto Workers' Union, now in negotiation.

The Lumber and Sawmill Workers' Union in Seattle gave the employers one week to raise wages 10 cents an hour or face a general strike in Washington and Oregon, which would affect 75,000 workers.

Boston I.L.A. members struck and won recognition on the Merchant and Miners docks. 400 men were out.

The tie-up of Akron's rubber industry is again threatened by sit-downs.

A strike of 8,000 workers in Westinghouse Electric, Pittsburgh, looms, the workers demanding recognition of the CIO United Electrical and Radio Workers' Union.

The 2500 Chicago Yellow and Checker tax strikers have petitioned the CIO for affiliation.

Eight hundred continue on strike at the Illinois Watch Case plant, Elgin, Ill. These are but a fraction of the many strikes now going on throughout the country.

Carl sit-downers in Detroit Woolworth stores have won pay raises.

## GREAT TASKS



VICE-PREMIER Valery Meshlak, outstanding Soviet economist, who succeeds the late Gregory K. Ordzhonikidze as Commissar of Heavy Industry. He has traveled extensively in U. S. and is well acquainted with American industrial technique.

## Solons to Debate Pardon to Mooney

(Continued from Page 1) Court. It therefore follows, by implication, that the legislature has power to pardon a person only once convicted of a felony. Particularly has the legislature the power to pardon where the power is not expressly prohibited to it under the principle that the legislature has all powers not denied it.

SACRAMENTO—Assembly debate will begin Wednesday over a resolution calling for a legislative pardon to Tom Mooney. The resolution is expected to go through the Assembly, but to strike a snag among the reactionary members of the Senate.

Mooney sympathizers deny the truth of Attorney-General Webb's statement that the legislature has no authority to pardon.

## How Did "Queen Helen" Know?

LOS ANGELES—"I knew they wouldn't find us guilty," cried Mrs. Helen Werner last Friday night in a superior court room. Maybe she did know, for the jury surprisingly brought in a "not guilty" verdict after four hours. Mrs. Pearl Mathewson, of Venice, a jury member, gave as reason for the acquittal that Joseph Weinblott, politician, turned state's evidence!

The two Werners, "Petticoat Pete" and "Queen Helen," had been on trial for conspiracy to solicit a bribe. In a previous trial, a jury deadlocked 7-5 for acquittal.

Both Werners have long been prominent in the more shady side of the city's political life. Werner was formerly city attorney and his wife was such a notorious "string puller" that she early gained the title "Queen" among the city hall gang.

SAN FRANCISCO—When Abel (I-won't-talk) Ducayla refused to testify before the Police Commission trial of Patrolman David Dillon last Thursday night, Dillon was returned to his beat and his old badge, 810.

Ducayla had testified before the grand jury that Dillon took bribes to "protect" houses of prostitution, but because some one apparently "got to him" since that time, refused to testify in open court.

## JUDGE IN L. A. AFFIRMS UNION STRIKE RIGHTS

*Thrifty Drug Order For Injunction Is Flatly Denied*

LOS ANGELES—In a decision constituting a sweeping indictment of the vicious restraining injunctions that have been ordered recently against organized labor, Judge Henry Willis, Superior Court, has denied Thrifty Drug Stores' petition for a permanent restraining order against the Pharmacists' Union, local 840.

Union Determined With the denial of the petition automatically dissolving the temporary restraining order given out by Superior Court Judge Ruben Schmidt last December 14, the Pharmacists announce greater concentration of effort and a determination to carry on the strike against the unfair Thrifty Stores.

Outlining the rights of labor in any dispute, Judge Willis pointed out that a union has the right to strike and the right to picket.

Furthermore, the Judge declared that the union possesses the right to persuade workers to join the strike, to visit them at their jobs or at their homes, to carry placards on the picket line, to use newspapers as placards, to sell or give away these newspapers for information, and to conduct a primary or secondary boycott.

## Strike Looms On Cal. WPA Jobs

(Continued from Page 1)

More complete union recognition of the union and protection of job stewards are also demanded.

In Alameda County a strike "sentiment" vote is being taken and of the eleven locals that have already voted, one was two to one and all the others unanimous in favor of strike if necessary.

If the strike materializes it will immediately involve over 3,000 WPA workers in the three Bay counties.

The rural districts are also talking strike and it may become a statewide action.

## Union Pushes for Punishment in Bridge Crash

SAN FRANCISCO—There may be a desire on the part of the Pacific Bridge Co. and certain public officials to hush up the real facts relating to the cause of the Golden Gate Bridge crash two weeks ago, but Laborers' Union, Local 261 intends to see that those guilty of the murder of 10 union men are unearched and punished.

### Union Proves Co. Neglect

The union has already proven that victims were put to work on travelling scaffolds which did not have proper and enough safety bolts. No railings protected the scaffolds, and there was no tie-back or safety cable.

Criminal prosecution for the bridge deaths is demanded by the Laborers' Union through business agents Jack Leonard and J. L. Roche.

Three Laborers' Union members who miraculously escaped death in the disaster furnished evidence proving the above-mentioned charges.

One, Jack Ledrick, says: "I noticed some of the safety lock bolts were missing from the trolley hangers. I heard Wellman ask an iron worker known as Blackie, where the safety lock bolts were. Blackie replied that they hadn't all arrived yet."

Another laborer, Martin Adams, charges that bolts were

## REACTIONARIES IN SAN DIEGO FACE RECALL

*Council Officers First Appointed By Joe Casey*

SAN DIEGO—Reactionary officials of the Federated Trade and Labor Council are faced with a recall election as a result of last Wednesday's meeting of the organization. The move was initiated by progressive unions which recently affiliated with the Council after a 14 months' boycott by a majority of the unions had reduced the Council to an ineffective and unrepresentative body.

Early in the meeting a letter was read requesting a recall election of all officers. It was signed by the Teamsters' Union, under the name of Jack Poteet, agent.

Bill Coffey, delegate of the Laborers' Union, who was last year voted a life membership in that organization in recognition of his oratorical talents, moved concurrence in the request.

It passed without opposition, indicating that the present officials of the Council realize that sufficient sentiment exists within the Council to oust them.

Immediately afterwards a motion was carried over feeble opposition, to adjourn the meeting.

### First Appointed By Casey

Present officers of the Council were first appointed by Joseph Casey, past AFL Organizer for the Pacific Coast, and later "elected" to their offices by the clever expedient of barring progressive union from the organization. This was accomplished by demanding sums in per capita taxes which for some unions amounted to hundreds of dollars.

Among those scheduled to be removed from office is Albert G. Rogers, editor of the weekly Labor Leader for almost a score of years. Rogers, a former Socialist, has become a rabid reactionary and his removal has been demanded by progressives for the past two years.

It was the action of the Central Council in attempting to remove Rogers from his editorship a year ago, which resulted in the Council being dissolved by Joe Casey. Before progressive organizations would re-affiliate to the Council this year, they demanded and received assurances from Rowland Watson, present Pacific Coast AFL Organizer, that all present officials can be removed by a two-thirds vote of the organization.

## Condemn Canadian Ban of "Western"

Barring of the Western Worker by the Canadian government has resulted in a strong protest from the Communist Party of California. The wire sent to Premier King follows:

Prime Minister McKenzie King Ottawa, Canada,

We have been informed by some of our Canadian subscribers that the Canadian Customs has barred the Western Worker from Canada. The Western Worker is the official organ of the Communist Party in the United States and we strongly protest against this outrageous violation of democratic rights. We demand that this ban which smacks of Hitlerism be removed.

Wm. Schneiderman, Communist Party U.S.A., 121 Haight Street, San Francisco, Calif.

## A LETTER ON WESTERN WORKER

(Continued from Page 1)

democracy and fascism in Spain? What other paper has exposed the miserable Trotskyist servants of fascism as bitter enemies of labor and would-be destroyers of the Soviet Union?

For five full years the "Western Worker" has lived and grown, through strikes and through terror always alert to help you and thousands of others by pointing the way to a better life. Now, the "Western Worker" needs your help; it cannot live unless you give it, \$12,000 must be raised in the present financial drive to maintain the Western, Daily and Sunday Worker in 1937. Will you do your share?

Perhaps you feel that the small contribution you can afford will make no material difference. But it is the small contributions from thousands upon thousands of tolling men and women throughout California that will build the \$12,000 fund so greatly needed. Send in your donation immediately. Set aside one-day's pay-

## Calif. Purchasers of Tear Gas, Guns Revealed in Inquiry

(Continued from Page 1)

Dolbur and Carson Lumber Co.; Hammond Lumber Co.; Holmes Bureka Lumber Co.; Eureka Stevedoring Co.; Fairfield—Solano Company; Fillmore—Police Dept.; Fullerton—Police Dept.; Hayward—Police Dept.; Huntington Park—City; Inglewood—Northrop Corp.; Jackson—Amador County; King City—Police Dept.; Long Beach—Police Dept.; Los Angeles—Los Angeles County (nine sales); J. S. Stemberger, care Paramount Prod.; L. A. Railway Corp.; Marysville—Police Dept.

Yuba County—Maywood—Police Dept.; Montebello—City; Monterey—Police Dept.; Napa—Napa County; Oakland—City (three sales); Orange—Police; Oxnard—Police; Petaluma—Police; Pajaro—Monterey County; Redding—Police; Riverside—Riverside County; Sacramento—Sacramento County; State Highway Patrol; Salinas—Police Dept. (\$14,268); Samoa—Hammond Lumber Co.; San Bernardino—San Bernardino County; San Diego—San Diego County.

San Francisco—American-Hawaiian Steamship Co.; Associated Terminal Co.; Ralph Hill; San Francisco Printing Co.; Schirmer Stevedoring Co.; (report also says "Federal Labs. letter dated July 23, 1934, from Oberkist to al Federal export agents states \$30,000 strike, \$16,000 of which was listed in an earlier exhibit); San Leandro—City; San Pedro—G. C. Carle, F. J. McGowan; San Rafael—Marin County, Police; Santa Ana—City; Orange County; Santa Barbara—Santa Barbara County.

Douglas Aircraft Santa Monica—City; Douglas Aircraft Co.; Soledad—Pacific Lumber Co.; Signal Hill—Police Dept.; South Gate City—Stockton Department.

Vernon—Cornelius Bros., Ltd.; Visalia—California State Highway Patrol; Watsonville—Police; Westwood—Red River Lumber Co.; Wilmington—Captain Wm. Hynes, Police Dept.; Strike Detail (six sales); Yreka—Siskiyou County; Yuba City—Police; Sutter County.

### Machine Guns

Six purchases of machine guns were said to have been made by industrial concerns in California. These were listed as follows:

M. Haide, San Francisco, three; Idaho—Maryland Mines Co., Grass Valley, three.

The Standard Oil Company of California was reported to have purchased 22 sawed-off shotguns, the Los Angeles Railway Company, four; the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Co., Alameda, one, and Los Angeles Gas & Electric Co., one.

The report listed purchase of three riot guns by the Banning Co., of Wilmington, and four by the Metropolitan Stevedore Co., also of Wilmington.

## Bribery Rumors In Legislature

SACRAMENTO—Bribery rumors involving reactionary Republican and Democratic legislators, revolved around the bills providing for a second horse race track in Southern California. Lobbyists for this track were reported very active in the legislative halls and corridors.

### Less Democratic

Democratic representation of the people in the State Legislature would be cut down under a constitutional amendment providing a one-house legislature, introduced by State Senator Culbert L. Olson, Los Angeles Democrat.

Olson's measure would establish 80 legislative districts for the one house, where now there are 80 Assembly Districts and 40 State Senate Districts.

## H. E. POMEROY THROWS 1500 INTO STREETS

*"Unemployable," So Called, Left To Starve in L.A.*

LOS ANGELES—"Let them starve!"

Thus, with his actions virtually amounting to this statement, State Relief Administrator, Harold E. Pomery has thrown 1500 aged and so-called unemployable people in Los Angeles County off relief rolls, onto the streets to await starvation.

Pomery's action, Los Angeles Superintendent of Charities Rev. Thomson declared, "violated the unwritten law of relief administration and amounts to throwing the persons into the streets."

Further spreading havoc and misery throughout the county, Pomery ordered that supplementary aid to 1500 WPA workers be discontinued. In the past workers with large families have received a little above their \$55 monthly budgets in order to stave off complete starvation.

Thomson charged that Pomery made his ruthless decision in face of a 5-3 opposing vote of the State Relief Commission.

"The SRA made absolutely no provision for them to receive aid elsewhere. The move is contrary to humane principles," Thomson said.

"The SRA carried these cases for two years and gave us no notice whatsoever that they would be dropped," he continued. "Even if we were not faced with the probability of having to drop our current load of 33,000 persons from relief, we could not legally take many of these persons. As for those said to be eligible for old age pensions, it will take about five months for them to get pensions, if they are eligible."

## Cal. Labor Bodies Reject CIO Ban

(Continued from Page 1)

ately moved that the letter be complied with, but Delegate Ernst of the Culinary Crafts amended the motion, urging that the letter be filed.

Ernst stated that the letter court not be presented at a more inopportune time, "when the CIO has organized hundreds of thousands of the mass production industry workers."

"Our international is loyal to the AFL; our president is on the AFL executive board, but our rank and file has twice gone on record supporting the ideals of the CIO."

"Green, Woll, and Frey are in the same category in which the President has placed the superannuated members of the Supreme Court."

"Green is asking us to split our Labor Council wide open, nullifying all the efforts we in San Francisco have put in to organize workers, spurred on by the activities of the CIO."

"Are we going to submit to the dictates of the executive council in Washington to preserve their high salaries jobs?"

Delegate McLaughlin of the Teamsters, who recently visited Green in Washington to obtain the order grabbing most of the Warehousemen away from the I.L.A. demanded that Green's letter be complied with. He threatened that the Teamsters would bolt the Council if this was not done.

McLaughlin was loudly booed. Among those speaking for the amendment to file were Delegates Shaw, I.L.A. 38-79; Edminister, Laborers' 261; Kidwell, Bakery Wagon Drivers.

Kidwell said the letter was very vague, but it was apparent that it was a "sounding board, indicating definitely what is in the minds of the executive council, to be followed by an order of disassociation if they get enough councils behind them. I hope the CIO organizes every mass production industry in this country. I don't know what the attitude of the Teamsters' international representatives is, but I don't care!"

BOSTON—The Massachusetts State Federation of Labor has flatly rejected William Green's letter for expulsion of CIO unions. "All unions share in a common objective," the federation told Green.

## Controller Riley in "Tough" Threat Against Jobless

SACRAMENTO—State Controller Harry B. Riley, in announcing dispatch of a special squad of auditors against so-called relief "chiselers," declared: "We are going to be tough about this."

## CIO IN MINES, NEVADA COUNTY

*Will Place Demand for 10 Per Cent Boost In Pay*

(Continued from Page 1) interests they are acting when they announced 100 per cent support for the Nevada County Mine Workers' Protective League, company union.

Grass Valley and Nevada City mine operators, due to the gains of the CIO, have just announced "recognition" of the company union.

John Shupper, CIO leader here, showed plenty of daring in getting up at the vigilante's midnight meeting and demanding the right to speak.

Shouts of "kill him" came from the vigilantes. As he left Schupper shouted "Take a good look at me, for you're going to see plenty of me."

GRASS VALLEY—CIO organizers are making so much headway among miners in this area that they will demand a \$1 a day pay boost in a few days.

Twin Cities Local 283 of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers is already near to representing a majority of the miners.

Nearly 500 Nevada County miners have already signed up. The Nevada County Miners' Protective Assn., a company union outfit, is not expected to be a serious obstacle.

## 500 at Rally for Picket Ban Repeal

SAN FRANCISCO—The Civic Welfare League, which had promised in a letter to send a spear to discuss the anti-picket law repeal, failed to have its representative at the Communist Party's open forum at 121 Haight street last Sunday night.

SAN FRANCISCO—Five hundred persons listened to arguments for and against repeal of the anti-picketing ordinance, No. 19 on the ballot, at a mass meeting in Scottish Rite Auditorium last Sunday afternoon.

Representatives of organized labor and the professions answered the arguments of Gerry Watkins, representing the Civic Welfare League, opposing repeal.

The motives of the Welfare League were attacked by John D. Barry, who presided at the meeting. Speakers who were in favor of repeal included Rev. Dillon Throckmorton, of Grace United Church, the Rev. Herick J. Lane, of Cavalry Presbyterian Church, John Schoemaker, of the International Longshoremen's Association, and Aubrey Grossman, attorney for the Warehousemen's Union.

On the platform were Andrew Gallagher, former supervisor, the Rev. Donald M. Chase, H. C. Carrasco, of the railroad brotherhoods, and Thelma Haut secretary of the Citizens' Committee for Repeal.

## Demand Weaver Retract on Lies

(Continued from Page 1)

House Merchant Marine, Com., Washington, D. C.

Communist Party of California brands as false and slanderous testimony of Joseph B. Weaver asserting Communist participation sea murder plot and that Lawrence Ross, editor of Western Worker, California Communist Party organ, paid money to Wallace convicted for slaying. Communist Party opposes acts of violence and terrorism. Simultaneously wiring Weaver demanding retraction. Ask this be entered on record.

California State Committee Communist Party, William Schneiderman, State Sec. The wire to Weaver states: March 7, 1937.

Joseph B. Weaver, Bureau Marine Inspection and Navigation, Washington, D. C.

Communist Party of California demands public retraction your testimony before House Committee asserting Communist participation murder plot and that Lawrence Ross, editor of Western Worker California Communist Party organ, paid money to Wallace convicted for slaying. Communist Party opposes acts of violence and terrorism. California State Committee Communist Party, William Schneiderman, State Sec.

## Plumas Woodsmen Solid in Strike

PORTOLA—Union organizers in this Plumas County area have begun negotiations with the Feather River Lumber Co. after having signed up most of the workers in the struck Delleker Box factory.

## PORT OF NEW WESTMINSTER CALLED OPEN

*But I.L.A. Declares Vancouver Still An Unfair Port*

SEATTLE—Officials of the Maritime Federation here have declared the port of New Westminster, B. C., open.

The action, according to Matt Meehan, secretary-treasurer of the Pacific Coast District of the I.L.A., was taken to "avert another tie-up."

Vancouver Not Included Action was taken in a wire, signed by Meehan and President Whitney of the Washington District Council of the Maritime Federation, which read:

"Due to the fact that majority of Longshoremen working New Westminster waterfront are affiliated with the I.L.A. (the port of New Westminster is declared open by the Washington District Council I.L.A. until further notice and you are authorized to work it. This not to be construed to cover port of Vancouver, which is still unfair."

The action followed a visit to Vancouver, B. C., by a committee consisting of Meehan, Harry Gross, Portland, attorney for the I.L.A., Jack Price, Raymond, wash, member of the executive board; J. J. Whitney, and James Engstrom, both of Seattle, representing the Washington Council of the Maritime Federation, and C. W. Deal, San Francisco, president of the Inland Boatmen's union.

Gross said the group tried to arrange meetings with the Vancouver shipping federation, which he said opposed working of cargo by British Columbia members of the I.L.A., but that they had been notified no meeting could be arranged until next week.

## Hint Frameup In Fitts Shooting

(Continued from Page 1)

calls seem a buildup to a framing of strikers.

Following agreement of the Northrup Aircraft, Douglas subsidiary, that it will recognize the United Automobile Workers' Union as collective bargaining agent for its members, Douglas strikers were encouraged and dug in with the establishment of a soup kitchen and several tents housing the various executive departments of the union, situated across the street from the Douglas plant.

Northrup workers had voted overwhelmingly for the CIO union.

Donald Douglas, president of Douglas Aircraft has announced the setting up of a \$5000 fund to protect scabs at the struck plant.

SANTA MONICA—Definite reports that the maintenance of the strong picket line at the Douglas Aircraft plant here, together with the ever-increasing militancy of the strikers, has had a marked effect on Donald "Duck" Douglas, was revealed by a CIO negotiating committee's report.

Declaring that Douglas had bowed to eight of the ten demands of the union in a meeting held Saturday evening, March 6, Dick Coleman, CIO official here from the east, speaking at a huge mass meeting in the auditorium of the Hotel Carlton here, said that a complete victory could be won in continued negotiating on Monday and Tuesday, depending on the pressure manifested by the picket line.

From the International Association of Machinists comes an official letter stating: "Machinists' Lodge No. 1185 wishes to express its sympathy and solidarity in your effort to fight for a cause for which we also are fighting."

(Signed) "George C. over, Recording Secretary."

SAN FRANCISCO—The San Francisco Central Labor Council has strongly condemned Los Angeles District Attorney Buron Fitts for his arrest of 345 Douglas sit-down strikers. Condemnation of Gov. Merriam for approving Fitts' action was also voted. Fitts and Merriam will receive copies of the resolution passed.

The action was taken despite the protests of Secretary O'Connell, who stated: "We'll have to be asking the Governor for a lot of favors, and we won't get them."

SHOE WORKERS GAIN BOSTON—Wage increases of 15 per cent were won by 13,000 New England shoe workers who struck. They were led by the United Shoe and Leather Workers' Union, with CIO help.



# Nation-Wide Chinese People's Front Against Japan Near

## PARLEY BEGUN BETWEEN C. P., CENTRAL GOV'T

Red Army to Join in All-China Defense Against Japan

SHANGHAI—Prospects of a China united to drive out the Japanese imperialist invaders were imminent here with the formal announcement that the Chinese government and the Communist Party of China had entered negotiations for incorporation of the Chinese Red Armies into those of the Central regime.

The step was made possible by the recent renunciation of the anti-Communist war by the Kuomintang, government party, in response to the overwhelming demand of the Chinese people. Prior to the meeting of the Kuomintang which decided on this policy, the Communist Party of China had sent a telegram in which it agreed to this step on condition that the force of the all-China armies would be turned against Japan.

Other steps promised were the formal incorporation of the Chinese Soviet Regions into the Chinese government, with a special autonomous administration. At the same time the Communist Party agreed to curtail the policy of confiscation of the lands of Chinese landlords who are carrying on the fight against Japan.

The total effect of the realignment taking place under pressure of the Chinese masses is to create a China united on a People's Front basis against Japan, as contrasted with a China divided against itself with Japan extending its robbery from Manchuria into all the northern provinces and threatening to assume economic power over the whole of the country.

It is also an answer to the Naz-Japanese pact "against Communism," which the Chinese masses have properly recognized as a military alliance not only against the Soviet Union but against China as a whole.

## Japanese Marines Attack China Strike

SHANGHAI, China—Additional Japanese marines armed with machine guns and rifles were landed in an attempt to break a strike of Chinese workers in the huge Japanese-owned Toyoda Spinning Mills.

Japanese warships were anchored in the harbor with guns in position. Chinese workers, striking for an average wage of less than \$4 a month, charge that Chinese spies were employed by the Japanese and that a union organizer was stabbed by one of these men.

## Labor Board Hearing On Port Watchmen In Los Angeles Soon

LONG BEACH—A hearing on designation of the Port Watchmen Assn. as collective bargaining agency for all port watchmen will soon be held in Los Angeles, according to Dr. Towns Nylander of the Labor Relations Board.

## Japanese Labor in Motion to Offset High Living Costs

TOKYO, Japan—Workers throughout Japan, faced with the problem of stretching starvation wages further than ever before to meet the rising cost of living, are indicating that they do not intend to take it lying down.

According to figures released by the Bank of Japan, the average rise in commodity prices from December to January was 4.5 per cent, with increases in food and clothing prices of over 6 per cent. It is expected that figures for February will show a similar rise over those for January.

Reaction to this has come from workers in many parts of Japan.

**Iron Workers Out**  
A delegation representing the 30,000 workers of the Iwata Iron Works held a conference with the executives of the company to demand an increase in wages or payment of special allowances to cover the increased prices. The company authorities refused to grant the demand.

A meeting of the workers immediately following this conference decided to send a number of representatives to Tokyo to deal with the authorities concerned. In the meantime they are to build up funds to tide them over in the event of a strike.

In view of the tax increase schemes which are almost certain to pass the Diet, and also because of the sharp rise in commodity prices 200,000 employees of the government railways are demanding that their salaries be raised to the level prevailing before the reductions were effected in 1931.

## Rumania Moves to Break The Fascist Organizations

BUCHAREST—The Rumanian government opened a counter attack against the provocations of Nazi agents here with measures designed to break up the Fascist organizations, including the Iron Guard.

## British Keep Tax Against Irish Cattle and Hogs

DUBLIN—England's economic overlordship of Ireland continues unabated with the announcement of the terms of a new trade pact by President Eamon DeValera.

Through import quotas and tariffs on Irish goods, England is collecting upwards of five million pounds a year from Ireland in lieu of the land annuity charges which Irish sentiment has withheld.

The new treaty, however, makes a further move to increase the British hold on Ireland. DeValera's campaign of suppression against the Irish Republican Army has already become a major means of attaining this.

In the new trade pact, while the tax on cattle and hogs remains in effect, the tax on horses has been removed. Without decreasing English revenues, the British government

Higher ranking seamen numbering 13,000 are now contemplating a demand for retirement allowances from their employers.

A child labor bill providing for a reduction in working hours has been drafted by the social affairs bureau of the Home Office and will be presented to the Diet. The present law allows an eleven-hour day for children!

**Workers of the Osaka street car service are demanding a 30 per cent increase in wages. The two unions to which the workers belong are reported on the verge of amalgamation.**

A petition asking for an increase of 10 per cent in wages was submitted by representatives of the Kobe City Tram Workers' Union, which has 1,200 members.

**19 Hours a Day**  
Because of the alarming revelation that some factories are causing their men to work as long as 19 hours a day, the Osaka Prefectural Government promised to restrict extra working hours.

According to the investigations recently made by the Osaka Prefectural Factory Section more than half the 12,000 factories in that prefecture are working beyond the official working hours, that is, over an eight-hour day.

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has moved to get further support from horse breeders who are numerically unimportant as compared to the mass of small producers who are concerned with the tax on cattle and hogs.

## ASKS BAR ON NITRATES FOR SPAIN REBELS

Bernard Scores Aid To Fascism Under "Neutrality"

WASHINGTON—Farmer-Labor Congressman John Bernard of Minnesota, pointing out the discrimination which the "neutrality" policy is fostering against the Spanish government, made a stirring appeal to the House of Representatives to stop the shipment to Spanish Fascists of nitrate used for "the most deadly weapons of modern warfare."

Bernard spoke with direct reference to the British freighter Limeria, recently tied up by the solidarity action of its British crew in Boston Harbor.

He read a telegram from Rev. Donald G. Lathrop, chairman of the Greater Boston Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, calling attention to the strike and appealing for action to Bernard as the one who "took a long stand against the neutrality law jammed through to prevent the shipment of airplanes to the legitimate government of Spain."

**Broke Precedent**  
"We broke a precedent of 150 years," said Bernard; "for the first time in our history, we placed an embargo against a friendly democratically elected government."

No opposition, Bernard pointed out, is being made to the fact "that nitrate is used in manufacturing the most deadly weapon known in modern warfare and we are allowing nitrates to be sent to the rebel forces in Spain."

Knowingly or unknowingly," Bernard concluded, "We have bowed to the forces of Fascism in America, and I sincerely hope that those who are in control of this House and are close to the administration will see to it that in the name of fair play and justice an embargo is placed on nitrates to the rebel forces."

## 'Borrowed'

FUSHUN, China—Starving peasants in this district have resorted to taking rice from the rice junks anchored in the river, in order to feed themselves and their families. Thousands of peasants emptied six junks within a few minutes.

## Bukarin and Rykov Expelled

MOSCOW—Nikolai Bukharin, former editor of Izvestia, and Alexei Rykov, former people's Commissar for Communications, have been expelled from the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Both were implicated in the recent trial of the Trotsky-Piatkov-Radek terrorist center.

No announcement has been made of court procedure against them and still others who were implicated in the Trotskyite plots of wrecking and sabotage in the Soviet Union in conjunction with the Nazi and Japanese governments.

It is very hard to get enough money to keep the families of many of the men in jail from suffering actual want and hunger as they are deprived of their breadwinners; we are doing our best but the Free State Government has forbidden all raffles and the usual means we had of collecting money.

Even Christmas boxes for the dependents of the political prisoners have been seized by the police.

In spite of all, I know the Republic will win in the end, but the road is hard and I am very old and weary. It is far worse when these wicked things are being done by Irishmen than when they were being done directly by England.

If you can help by getting pressure brought from Irish-America on De Valera, asking to release the Republican prisoners and stop coercion, we would all be deeply grateful.

With best wishes for the New Year to all our friends in America, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,  
MAUD GONNE MACBRIDE  
Roebuck House,  
Clonskea, Co. Dublin.

## NEW PRESIDENT



KYOSTI KALLIO, member of the Agrarian Party, elected new president of Finland, when Socialists and all non-Fascist parties combined to defeat Fascist candidate.

## BREAKING ALL PRECEDENTS TO DAMAGE SPAIN

Department of State Shows Its Favor For Fascism

WASHINGTON—Details of the state department's systematic discrimination against democratic Spain in violation of every precedent of the past to help the governments in power were shown here in the copyrighted "Washington Merry-Go-Round" column of Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen.

It is like "pulling teeth of a wounded bull," the columnists declared, to get any information of airplane shipments to Japan. Likewise it was pointed out: That the state department had openly permitted the American fliers and American planes to be used by the Chinese government at a time when it was carrying on a war against the workers and peasants of China.

That Italian officers openly recruited in New York for the criminal war against Ethiopia without protest from the state department.

That during the Mexican Revolution the government openly arranged to sell shells and rifles to the Mexican government.

That during the Brazilian people's revolt the state department interceded directly with the Navy department to postpone acceptance of several bombing planes in order to let the Brazilian government get immediate delivery.

**The Tables Turned**  
Despite all this, the state department shouted horror and published details of a shipment of airplanes to the Spanish government by the Vimalert Company of Jersey City.

Since then the state department has interceded with the Justice Department to prosecute citizens paying passage for those who wanted to enlist for Spain against the Fascists.

The latest state department ruling, against even the sending of medical assistance including ambulance units to Spain, ties in directly with the vicious "neutrality" legislation railroaded through congress in defiance of every precedent of this and previous administrations to aid foreign governments during insurrections.

This aid to the Fascists through the back door of "neutrality," said the columnists, has been carried on despite advice from the attorney general's office that there is no legal precedent for it.

## Waterfront Book Store Opened In Portland

By a Worker Correspondent  
PORTLAND, Oregon—How about a little money for our waterfront shop—gratis—until we have a pay-day? It is the 20th Century Book Store, located at 28 N.W. Second St., Portland, and we carry a complete line of working-class books, magazines, pamphlets and newspapers. Later on we will be able to advertise in the Western Worker, so please send your advertising rates.

## Assembly Probe of State Relief

SACRAMENTO—Dropping of 2000 from the Los Angeles relief rolls has caused the Assembly to empower its Welfare Committee to investigate the State Relief Administration.

The resolution was introduced by Assemblyman Lore, Los Angeles Epic and Typo Union member.

## TOKYO PRESS AMITS SPIES USED IN USSR

Trotsky Spies Gave Information, Says War Minister

MOSCOW—The Japanese Times, English language spokesman for the Japanese Foreign Office, openly admitted that the Japanese government is carrying on espionage work in the Soviet Union and concluded:

"Neither Japan nor Germany will do themselves any good by taking offense at the evidence given before the Military Collegium of the Supreme Court of the USSR."

The trial had disclosed that these agents were Trotskyist agents.

It was further reported that on March 1 in the Japanese Diet war Minister Sugiyama stated that the Japanese general staff possesses information on the Soviet Railways from Trotskyists.

**Useless Denial**  
In Berlin General Hermann Goerring and Dr. Paul-Joseph Goebbels, Hitler's close co-workers, had simultaneously called Trotsky the "eternal revolutionary" but denied any connection with him.

But the Japan Times on January 28 wrote:

"It must be taken as fact that both Germany and Japan are naturally trying to obtain any information on the USSR capable of having military value."

## LIBERALS SCORE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST SPAIN

Ask Congress to Rescind Action Aiding Franco

NEW YORK—Resumption of normal commercial relations between the U. S. and the recognized Spanish government, to be brought about by reconsideration of the Congressional resolution of Jan. 7, is urged by a group of prominent American liberals in a letter to the House foreign affairs committee at Washington.

The January resolution, by putting the rebels and the recognized government on the same footing, "is in principle an encouragement to revolution," the signers state, "for if it establishes a precedent, then any faction which loses at the ballot box in any country can turn to arms with the assurance that the recognized government will receive no greater consideration from the U. S. than the rebels against it."

"In this connection, we may be permitted to call attention to the attitude of our own government in the civil war. We insisted then upon our right to purchase war supplies abroad and denied that right to the confederacy."

Signers are Bishop Robert L. Padocck, Roger N. Baldwin, Prof. Morris Cohen, Devere Allen, Vito Marcantonio, Pres. William Allen Neilson of Smith College, Prof. Harry A. Overstreet and Charles Edward Russell.

The communication was sent as reactionaries in Congress pressed for legislation to curb collection of aid, and as the State Department ruled that all persons seeking passports must make affidavit they do not intend to go to Spain. This, the department announced, is meant to bar even medical personnel from volunteering for humanitarian service.

## Now an "Offense" To Go to Spain

WASHINGTON—The U. S. government has made it an offense for an American citizen now obtaining a passport to use that passport in Spain.

The state department announced that those applying for passport must state on affidavit that the passport will not be used for travel in Spain, and furthermore that it is not even his intention to go to Spain.

## Vallejo Supervisors Reconsider Act

VALLEJO—Labor pressure has compelled the Solano County Board of Supervisors to reconsider the drastic anti-picket law recently adopted.

One of the three supervisors who voted for the ordinance has agreed to change his vote when the matter comes up again.

## PEACE CENTER OPENED IN S. F.

SAN FRANCISCO—A Peace Center, housing organizations carrying on the struggle against war and Fascism, has been opened at 715 Ashbury street, near Masonic.

Headquarters of the American League Against War and Fascism, The American Society for Technical Aid to Spanish Democracy and the North American Committee for Defense of Spanish Democracy are already located in the building.

It is expected that the French Popular Front Federation will also open an office there.

The phone number is HEMlock 8101.

## ANNA LOUISE STRONG WILL TALK IN S. F.

Report on Spain Will Be Given Mar. 18 At Dreamland

SAN FRANCISCO—Anna Louise Strong, noted author and lecturer recently returned from Spain, will speak at a mass meeting in Dreamland Auditorium Thursday night, March 18, under the auspices of the American League Against War and Fascism.

Her subject will be "Democracy or Fascism."

John D. Barry, noted liberal and columnist on the San Francisco News, will preside. Tickets will be priced at 25 and 40 cents.

Miss Strong, as an American labor journalist, went to the Soviet Union in 1925 and became associate editor of the Moscow News. Her book: "I Change Worlds," has been widely read and praised.

Recently she wrote a series of articles, resulting from her extensive tour in the Spanish loyalist trenches and behind the lines. Sent out by Federated press these articles are being extensively printed in labor and liberal journals.

## 26 Million Children in Soviet Schools

MOSCOW—More than a million copies of Shakespeare's works have been sold in the U.S.S.R. in the last few years. This is not so wonderful when the great changes that have taken place in the educational system are considered.

There are now twenty-six million children in primary and secondary schools as against seven million in 1913.

Before the war there were 2,700,000 newspapers sold each day and 100,000,000 books published in a year. In 1935 there were 37,000,000 newspapers circulated each day and 500,000,000 books published.

The classics share the book boom. Thirty million children's books were produced last year.

## Correct Figures On Vacaville's Aid To Spanish Democracy

By a Worker Correspondent  
VACAVILLE—I want to call your attention to an error regarding the amount of money raised at our last meeting of February 20 when the Spanish delegates spoke. You give us credit for \$1250 and indicate there were 450 present.

The amount raised was \$1030.38. There were about 700 present. On November 19, 1936, we had a meeting of about 600 and raised \$528. Collection lists have been circulated freely, and the money has been sent to the Spanish Embassy in Washington. We calculate we have collected about \$3000.

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## NEWS GUILD MAN DIED AS SPAIN HERO

Ben Leider is Shot Down in Jarama Air Battle

VALENCIA—(By cable to FP)—Ben Leider, American Newspaper Guild member and first American to die in action in Spain, was shot down in the fiercely-contested battle in the Jarama valley, where Franco's drive on the Valencia-Madrid road was hurled back and the precious lines of communication were preserved.

Details of the flying reporter's death Feb. 19 have reached here in eye-witness accounts. Four loyalist planes, one of them piloted by Leider, were in combat with seven Fascist planes.

A terrific battle took place in which several rebel planes were shot down and others fled. Then the government planes flew long over an insurgent trench, machine-gunning the position.

Suddenly Leider's plane was hit by anti-aircraft guns. It burst into flames. He maneuvered, seeking to put out the fire and get back to loyalist territory. Before he could do so, there was an explosion, the plane went to pieces, and Leider fell directly into enemy territory.

When Leider first went to Spain he was assigned to pilot a big transport plane between the front and cities in the rear, carrying military officials and supplies. He begged for combat service and received training as a combat pilot before going into action.

## INDIA RAILROAD STRIKE SPREADS

National Congress Extends Sympathy to Strikers

NAGPUR, India—The strike of the workers of the Bengal Nagpur Railway, which began on December 13, grows stronger every day, and has spread until now it involves more than half the workers on the entire system.

Officials of the union made every effort to effect settlement of the dispute before the strike was called. They have continued their efforts since the beginning of the strike, with no success.

They even made an application to the Government of India asking for a board of conciliation under the trade disputes Act. The government, however, rejected the request.

Workers all over the country, particularly those on the railways, have expressed solidarity with the strike.

The Indian National Congress at its Faizpur session passed a resolution sympathizing with the cause of the strikers. At various places arrangements are being made to collect funds for strike relief.

## Spokane's WPA Sit-Down in 2nd Week

SPOKANE, Wash.—Firm in their demands for increased WPA jobs, Spokane Workers' Alliance members are in their second week of a sit-down strike at WPA headquarters.

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## Reaction Attacks Irish Republicans

Maud Gonne MacBride, widow of Major John MacBride who was killed during the Easter Rebellion of 1916, sent the accompanying letter to a San Francisco friend under date of January 3, 1937.

In my fifty years of work for Irish Independence I have never been up against such a stone wall of silence, such complete stifling of all Republican expression of thought.

The press here is completely muzzled under censorship of the Military Tribunal; no letter of protest against the inhuman treatment of political prisoners, no report of our speeches at protest meetings may be published in the newspapers.

Three of our speakers, for speaking at prisoners' meetings, are in Arbor Hill, sentenced by the Military Tribunal. None of the political prisoners have been allowed to see a newspaper since their arrest, not even Moss Twomey.

No Christmas parcels were allowed to be sent into the prisoners this year though even the

## Widow of Easter Week Hero Appeals to Irish-Americans For Aid Against the Attacks of De Valera and His Military Tribunal.

British allowed this, and in Belfast the governor allowed Christmas parcels to be sent.

**Treated As Convicts**  
The Republican prisoners in Belfast are treated as ordinary convicts and obliged to wear prison clothes. Remember that none of the political prisoners have committed any offence which they could have been sentenced under the ordinary law.

The courage and spirit of all these young soldiers of the Republic gives one faith in Ireland. They would all be released from this cruel imprisonment if they would sign an undertaking to leave the IRA and no longer fight for the Republic.

Young Glynn, two days before his murder in Arbor Hill, was offered this undertaking to sign and refused. The governor of Arbor Hill, Capt. O'Duffy

swore this in evidence at the inquest.

Because of the impossibility of getting the facts published here I am writing you to ask if you can help by getting those facts published in America, and if you can get pressure from Irish-American organizations brought to bear on Mr. De Valera. It is my only hope for the prisoners.

Our own paper, An Phoblacht, was as you know suppressed by the Military Tribunal.

We Republicans had a sad Christmas with so many of our best men in jail and so many others on the run, unable to return to their homes.

Can't See Son

I dare not see my only son, as the police, CID, are raiding for him. His wife and family are living with me; that is my only comfort.



## Western Worker

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## Roosevelt Hits Straight From The Shoulder

**PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT** hit straight out from the shoulder and pulled no punches in his radio address on his Supreme Court proposals last Thursday. The sharpness of his attack against those ultra-reactionaries who are leading the fight against the proposals answered the intensive barrage against him engineered by the country's leading reactionaries.

Those very pro-Fascist elements who supported Landon, who called Roosevelt a Communist, who used every device in order to defeat democracy and further Fascism in this country by the election of Landon—have the iron-clad gall to attack Roosevelt as a dictator!

Roosevelt's speech defended the interests of the people; the issue of the Supreme Court is one that vitally affects the standard of living of the people. One of Roosevelt's statements, especially, is of great significance: the declaration that the fate of American democracy depends on whether or not living standards of the people can be raised!

In his last radio campaign address, on the eve of election day last November, Roosevelt outlined a number of pressing needs of the people, declaring that "for these things we have only just begun to fight."

Roosevelt's fight on the Supreme Court issue is a blow at the heart of the enemy—the du Ponts, Morgans, Rockefellers and other open-shoppers—all those reactionaries who are working night and day to strangle American democracy in order to render ineffective the fight of the people for these everyday needs.

The people who elected Roosevelt did so on a platform of fighting for their needs. They had faith in Roosevelt. A faith which Roosevelt has not always justified since his election—especially in the matter of the appropriations for relief and the cutting of 600,000 off the WPA rolls, and the "neutrality" legislation which helped the Fascist forces fighting against Spanish democracy.

But on the Supreme Court issue, Roosevelt has thus far fought uncompromisingly. We agree with the President when he said that the need is NOW. We quote the concluding sentence of his radio address:

"If we would keep faith with those who had faith in us, if we would make democracy succeed, I say we must act—NOW!"

"If Henry Ford doesn't like the 20th century, let him go back to the 19th century where he came from."—Wyndham Mortimer, vice-president of the United Auto Workers' Union.

## Rally Support for the California Youth Act!

**ON APRIL 9th** the Assembly Committee on Social Service and Welfare will conduct a public hearing on the California Youth Act, introduced by Assemblyman Elmer Lore and twenty-one co-signers.

This bill, drawn up by the California Youth Assembly and adopted by the California People's Legislative Conference, is the expression of 200,000 organized youth of California, and is a practical measure for opening up employment and educational facilities to the youth of the State.

The House of Representatives in the State of Washington has already passed the Washington Youth Bill by a vote of 57 to 27.

Progressives in the labor movement must do all possible to support the bill. We urge that every progressive organization, especially the trade unions, adopt resolutions supporting the California Youth Act and send copies of the resolution to the assemblyman and senator of its district.

The lead in this should be taken by those unions who had delegates at the California Assembly of Youth and those whose delegates were at the Sacramento People's Legislative Conference. We suggest that first these resolutions—including letters from their constituents—be sent to the members of the Committee on Social Welfare and Security, in order to obtain a favorable report out of committee. We list below the names of the assemblymen on that committee and their districts:

James E. Thorpe, 12th district, San Joaquin; Ellis E. Patterson, 35th district, Monterey; Jack B. Tenney, 46th district, Los Angeles; Elmer E.

Lore, Chairman 42nd district, Los Angeles; Hugh P. Donnelly, 32nd district, Stanislaus; Wm. B. Hornblower, 23rd district, San Francisco; Gardiner Johnson, 19th district, Alameda; Geoffrey F. Morgan, 60th district, Los Angeles; Clyde A. Watson, 24th district, Orange County.

The campaign for the California Youth Act is an integral part of the struggle of the people of California against the reactionary interests of the state, which is interested not in creating jobs and opportunities for youth, but in keeping large numbers of youth unemployed for the purpose of introducing lower wages and worse conditions in industry.

"Flat tires disturb CIO Strike Parley," reads a capitalist press headline on the Douglas Aircraft strike. We never thought of that name for Bill Green.

## Another Victory for the Line of The Communist International

**THE RAPIDLY** approaching conclusion of an agreement between Chiang Kai-shek and the Chinese Communist Party for a Chinese All-People's Front to resist Japanese imperialist invasion is a splendid victory for the line of the Communist International.

The Seventh World Congress of the Communist International, in the summer of 1935, declared the immediate objective of the Chinese Communist Party was to struggle for a unified China, to resist the encroachments of Japanese imperialism. It was the work of the Chinese Communist Party which made possible the crystallization of the sentiment among the masses for united resistance to Japan.

It was the excellent work of the Chinese Communist Party that stimulated the organization, and growth of the Groups for National Salvation which, at a convention, formed the All-China Federation of National Salvation Unions—a powerful mass weapon in the struggle for national unity against Japan.

Chiang Kai-shek has had to react to such powerful mass pressure for unity and drop his policy of "internal pacification"—a policy which in effect meant the launching of a series of drives against the Chinese Soviet areas and attempts to wipe out the Chinese Red Army; at times which were beaten back time and again, while Japan advanced from Manchuria into North China.

The effect of Chinese unity against Japanese imperialism will be far-reaching; it will strengthen the resistance of democracy against Fascist aggression throughout the world.

The Merchants and Manufacturers' Assn. in Los Angeles demands "the unquestioned right of truck drivers to work," says the Los Angeles Times. No, it doesn't mean to take over the job of the Workers' Alliance.

## Support the Mooney Pardon Bill

WITH the favorable report by the Assembly Rules Committee of the resolution calling for the freedom of Tom Mooney, the greatest possible pressure must be brought to bear on the legislators to ensure adoption of the resolution.

It is true that immediate pardon would not follow the passing of the Free Mooney Bill; the power of the legislature to pardon would be put up to interpretation by Attorney General U. S. Webb. But the adoption of the resolution would express the will of every man and woman in California, with the exception of the handful of reactionary industrialists, bankers and landowners. And it would also have a tremendous influence in the hearing of the Mooney frame-up before the United States Supreme Court, should the Attorney General decide the legislature is not invested with pardon powers, and be upheld in that opinion by the State Supreme Court.

In the meantime, all those who are convinced of Mooney's innocence—especially trade unions—should act to let their legislature know how they stand, and demand favorable action on the resolution.

It is high time this major blot be erased from California record. Tom Mooney must be restored to the fighting ranks of American and California labor.

## The Rat is Out of the Bag

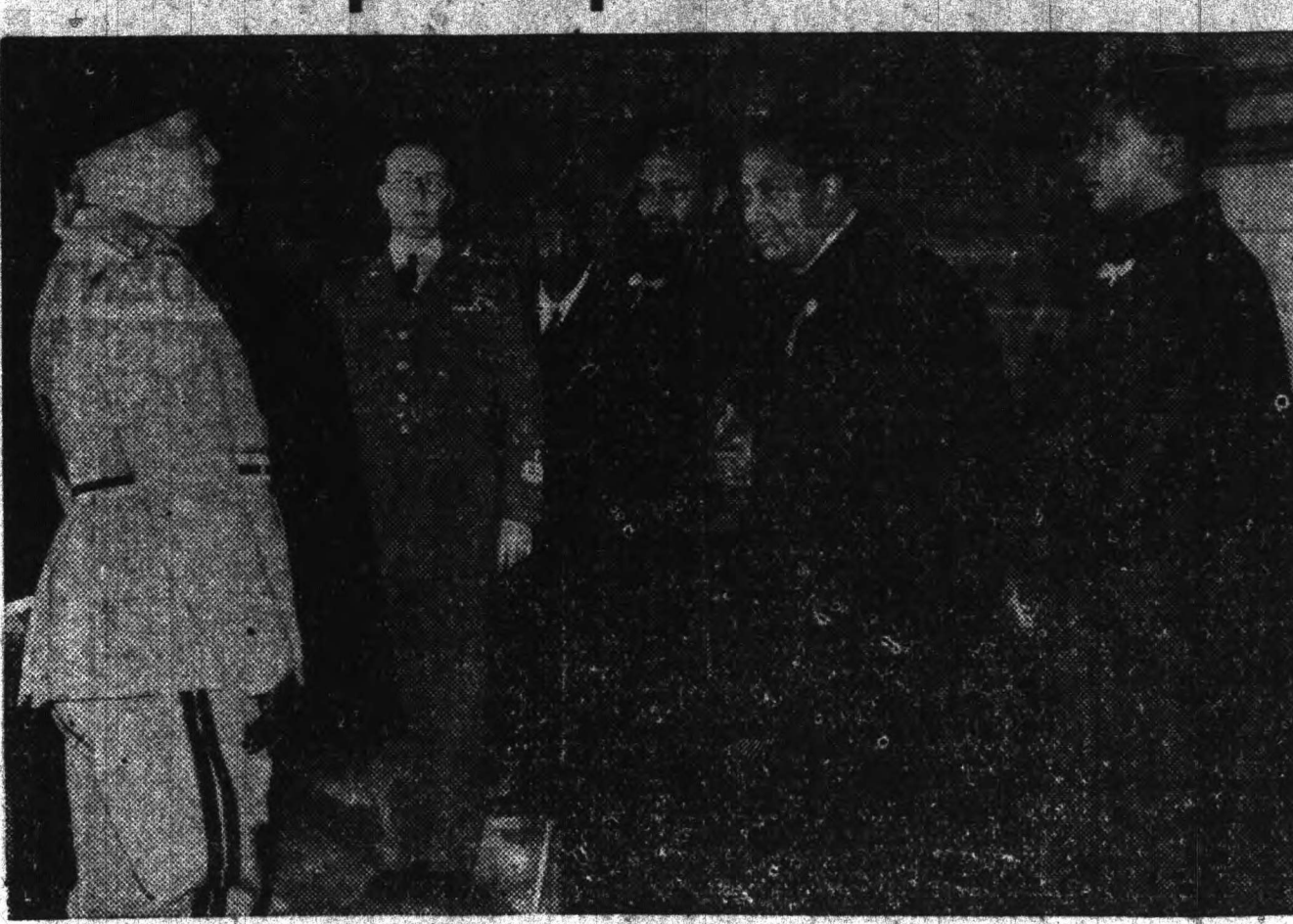
**THE SLIP** made by the Japan Times, English-language newspaper published in Tokyo, has let the rat out of the bag. This paper, referring to the spying activity "naturally" carried on by Japan in the Soviet Union as "normal" activities of any impartial power against a potential war-time enemy, declared on January 28th:

"Neither Japan nor Germany will do themselves any good by taking offense at the evidence given before the Military Collegium of the Supreme Court of the USSR."

This is an admission of the fact that the Trotskyites worked with and under the direction of the Japanese Intelligence Service, as revealed in the Moscow trial last month. A fact which at first both the Japanese and German governments made haste to deny.

In addition to this editorial slip, the reported statement by War Minister Sugiyama that the Japanese General Staff possesses information on the Soviet Railways from the Trotskyists, completely refutes the denials of the Japanese Government and knocks another prop from under Trotsky's lying structure of attacks against the Soviet Union.

## —But Ethiopian People Still Resist Mussolini's Armies



ON A VISIT to Rome, Ras Seyum and Ras Ghebae, Ethiopian chiefs, are received by Mussolini with one of their aides. But the Ethiopian people still resist Fascist armies. How popular Mussolini is in Ethiopia was recently shown by attempt to assassinate Viceroy Graziani, for which hundreds of Ethiopians were executed in Addis Ababa.

## A New Feature--Reminiscences of the Calif. Labor Movement

(The author of this series is a long-time labor movement enthusiast against their cold, hard millions of dollars. We've come a long way in California since the first of the 20th Century. We have a long way to go yet. But we're well on our way.)

(To Be Continued)

## How the Trotskyites Disrupted at the California State Agricultural Meeting

Trotskyites again gave proof that their object in the labor movement is to cause as much disruption as possible. This time it was at the Agricultural conference sponsored by the State Federation of Labor last Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 27 and 28. A noisy individual, not an agricultural worker, named Lillian Monroe, was chief spokesman for the Trotskyites.

Let it be first pointed out that though Monroe figured she had the independent union delegates corralled, she found out to her sorrow that Trotskyite disruption does not suit these workers—the Filipinos and Mexicans. Therefore very few of these workers voted the way the Trotskyites wanted them to.

At the conference those on the State Federation executive board who are reactionary, headed by Ed Vandeleur, wanted to force through a set-up contrary to democratic principles—the locals would surrender their charters before a state charter was procured; the state federation officials would be the controlling body. The delegates wanted, and decided on forming branches in central labor body areas, under the state charter, and on election of sub-organizers by the branches.

Lillian Monroe said: "I'd rather throw the whole thing up than see the plan of the organization committee adopted (the plan the delegates voted for, with some changes)."

Monroe, the Trotskyite, by the way, was the only one who red-baited at the conference; even Vandeleur didn't dare to. She attacked branches, saying: "There may be seven, possibly, of the Communist Party who would call themselves a branch."

This red-baiting attack on local autonomy taught many of the delegates just what Trotskyites stand for. Here they saw the few Trotskyites present siding constantly with the state federation reactionaries of the Vandeleur stripe, and against the majority of the delegates.

No wonder Vandeleur shook hands with Julius Nathan, Trotskyite, as the former left the conference hall.

When Monroe threatened to walk out, delegates shouted: "You can go, all right!" The Trotskyites annoyed the delegates, when some of the former who were visitors signalled other Trotskyites how to vote; they continually passed remarks, even though they were not delegates. Delegates insisted that this be stopped.

Anthony Ramuglia, a Trotskyite who edits a paper in Los Angeles, called the "United Field Worker," had to put in his two cents and urge "full confidence in the state federation." He also spoke against the democratic set up for which the delegates voted.

Lillian Monroe again hysterically yelled: "I say, let's adjourn the conference and call it off. We're not going to get a state charter anyway."

The delegates didn't agree with her; they didn't see any need to adjourn until they completed the purpose for which they had come, and they believe they're going to get a state charter, on democratic terms.

### UNION FOE FIRED

FLINT—City Manager Barringer, foe of the auto-strikers, has been fired by the City Commission, by a 5 to 3 vote.

## Tasks of the Communist Party In Alameda County

RESOLUTION ON TASKS OF COMMUNIST PARTY IN ALAMEDA COUNTY  
(By Alameda County Committee)

The policy and direction of our Central and State Committees, as applied in Alameda County, have brought about a considerable development of the movement for the People's Front, for Independent Political Action among the Trade Unions, as demonstrated by the strong support within the Non Partisan Political Federation of Labor, and for progressive legislation around the People's Legislative Conference.

**A Challenge to the Party**  
The fight for the extension of democratic rights and social security can and must be greatly extended, and the municipal elections are a challenge to our Party, as our major task, to give most active leadership in this field.

**Party policy and activity in the trade union field** has contributed largely to the gains of labor in the organization of the unorganized, the growing progressiveness and unity in the Trade Union movement, the success in strikes and in winning broad public support and has resulted in the tripling of our Trade Union membership; and this situation presents us with increased responsibilities and problems.

The fight for peace, against Fascism and for Spanish democracy, has been leadership by our Party, and has had considerable support, and grown; but our guidance and organizational help has not been sufficient to meet the needs of the situation—since aid to Spain, support of the Soviet peace policy, exposure of Trotskyism and the fight against the embargo and "neutrality" proposals are burning issues with a wide sentiment of support.

The immediate strengthening of our Party, in every way, is most vital and urgent if we are to meet the challenge to give leadership to the workers and middle class people in the rapid building of the People's Front, against Fascism—and leading them on the path to Socialism.

**Tightening Up Apparatus**  
There is a great need for tightening up, and efficient functioning of our Party apparatus, its committees and executive bureaus, for the training of functionaries, education of our 179 new members, and for the consolidation of our gains.

The circulation of the Western Worker and basic Party literature has not kept pace with our growth in members and influence.

We resolve:

1. That the county and section committees give their main and most active attention to the election campaign now before us, and the developments of the political—People's Front—movement in the unions, electoral districts and neighborhoods, and give increased attention to the People's Legislative Conference.

2. That an Industrial Section be set up; our Trade Union work be strengthened by improved fraction leadership; that the county committee concentrate its new efforts on cannery and agriculture, in this field; and that three shop units be established by June 1st.

3. That the county committee immediately strengthen its aid to the movements against War and Fascism and to aid Spanish democracy.

4. That the county committee take immediate steps to consolidate our gains and tighten and improve our organizational set-up.

5. That further steps be taken to establish the authority of the county and section committees, by developing collective political leadership and insisting on individual responsibility and example.

Goal of 350 By May 1

6. That every unit and branch have a membership director, in order to strengthen the newly set up county apparatus.

7. That we set a goal of having 350 dues-paying members by May 1st.

8. That the establishment of the New Members Units and

classes with proper instruction be a main task of the county and section committees.

9. That every section, unit and branch select and reconsider its main concentration—in factory, neighborhood or mass organization, where this has not yet been done.

10. That we double our circulation of the Western Worker, in three months, and work out ways and means of putting into life the slogan "Every Party Member a Reader of the Western Worker."

11. That every section and unit immediately arrange all necessary plans and steps to guarantee the fulfillment of our quota for the Western Worker Drive, raising the remaining 40 per cent of April 1st.

## "Without Us, Can't Make Airplanes"

SANTA MONICA — "Douglas can't make planes without us, and he won't get us until he talks turkey to the union," was the declaration of nearly a thousand pickets at the Douglas plant here as the strikers took another step towards victory.

Encouraged by dozens of workers who reported for work Monday but came to the picket line afterwards and by several others who walked out of the plant during working hours with their tool boxes, the strikers, led by the militant "400," took their most important advance in strategy by broadening their Strike Committee with more members from the rank and file.

### From All Departments

Steps were taken to elect representatives from all departments when it was learned that Douglas had been packing individual departments with helpers and school boys for the purpose of holding an election which would favor the Douglas Employees' Association, against the CIO, as a collective bargaining agent.

Reports from several sources indicated that various aviation schools were supplying Douglas scabs, and it is said that chief among these offenders was the Warren School of Aviation. Members of the Strike Committee said that an investigation was under way and that any schools supplying scabs would be picketed.

One militant worker from the machine shop declared he had walked through the engineering department with a large placard bearing the words: "We want a living wage," and that he had received an encouragement, spontaneous applause.

### Key Departments

Citing key departments such as the welders, die makers, and several others, out 100 per cent, workers on the picket line scoffed at Douglas officials' reports that production was nearly normal.

Dozens of strikers said they had been approached by what they suspected to be company stooges with offers of free drinks. Others declared they had been told by "loyal" workers that an offer by Douglas to negotiate with the CIO had been turned down. This was proven false when Douglas was challenged to make this announcement over the loud speaker recently installed over the plant gate.

Reports were received which showed widespread support for the Douglas strikers from rank and file members of the AFL.

## ATTENTION NEW PARTY MEMBERS

Realizing the political importance of having every Party Member a reader of the Western Worker, the California State Organization Commission, C. P., wants to announce the following Special Temporary Offer of the Western Worker to OUR NEW PARTY MEMBERS.

All new party members who have joined the Communist Party during the Browder-Ford membership drive or who are joining our Party every day, will be entitled to receive a 3-month subscription to the Western Worker at a special rate of 75 cents.

Every unit and branch should make an immediate check of the non-readers among our new comrades and should urge them to take advantage of this offer.

This will be an important step toward our goal of "Every Party Member a Reader of the Western Worker."

Comradely yours,

CALIF. STATE ORG. COMMISSION.

### Tunnel Sitdown

BANNING — The CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Tunnel Local will take up negotiations on grievances of over 200 workers who have ended a sit-down strike at the Potrero Tunnel.



# How Trotskyites Work with Fascists for War, Against Labor

## Some Facts on Trotsky and the Trotskyites

The following is a section of a forthcoming pamphlet by William Z. Foster, noted trade union leader and chairman of the Communist Party, USA, entitled "Questions and Answers on the Piatakov-Radek Trial."

By WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

Was There a Contradiction Between Zinoviev and Piatakov Trials?

Confronted by the damning facts in the confessions of 16 men in the Zinoviev trial of August, 1936, and of 17 in the Piatakov trial of January, 1937, all of whom showed him to be the chief conspirator and engineer of the fascist assassination and war plot against the USSR, Trotsky, in panic to free himself from this complete exposure of his counter-revolutionary activities, is having recourse to many explanations, each less convincing than the other.

He says, secure in his super-egotistic faith that all must believe him, "I reject all the statements made against me by the defendants. Not a word is true." He shouts that everything is a frame-up by Stalin. And in his desperate efforts to make his feeble and contradicting charges of frame-up stand erect, Trotsky uses the most absurd arguments. Then, in the printed report of what was to have been a telephoned speech from Mexico City to New York, Trotsky tries to bolster up his tottering "frame-up" allegations by citing a supposed contradiction between the testimony in the Zinoviev-Kamenev trial and that of the recent Piatakov-Radek trial. Says Trotsky, (N. Y. Herald-Tribune, Feb. 10, 1937):

"The trial of Zinoviev-Kamenev was concentrated upon 'terrorism.' The trial of Piatakov-Radek placed in the center 'the stage no longer terror, but the alliance of the Trotskyites with Germany and Japan for the preparation of war, the dismemberment of the USSR, the sabotage of industry and the extermination of the workers. How to explain this discrepancy?'"

Then Trotsky goes on to argue that the Zinoviev trial was not convincing to the world, and therefore it was necessary for Stalin to cook up a new and more dastardly frame-up; so the Piatakov trial was prepared. He goes on:

"However, for this second, more graniose production, Stalin lacked the principal actors; he had shot them. In the principal roles of the principal presentation he could place only secondary actors! It is not sufficient to note that Stalin attacked much value to Piatakov and Radek as collaborators. But he had no other people with well-known names, who if only for their distant part could pass as Trotskyites. That is why fate descended sternly upon Radek and Piatakov."

Affront to Intelligence

What an utter absurdity is all this "explanation." Its glaring ridiculousness, which must affront the mind of every intelligent person, which the fascists, to cover up their crimes, put out most fantastic statements for the world to swallow. Consider for a moment this utter nonsense that Trotsky asks us to believe. Stalin, he alleges, had not succeeded in the Zinoviev trial in bringing forth more incriminating charges against him. So Stalin goes to the men Piatakov and Radek, with whom Trotsky admits Stalin was on friendly relations and valued highly as collaborators, and arranges with them (and 15 others) to confess to the most monstrous crimes of assassination, sabotage, espionage, treason and alliance with the fascists. This Piatakov, Radek, et al., are supposed to have done, although they must have known that in so doing they would disgrace themselves forever as Benedict Arnolds and sign their own death warrants. Piatakov and Radek, we are asked to believe, agreed just to make this awful sacrifice to discredit Trotsky. If this were so, Stalin must be a wizard instead of a human being. What an inflated ego Trotsky has to assert that men would go to such terrible lengths of suicide in body and reputation merely to injure him and his two-by-four movement. And what fools he must think people are to believe such bizzare trash.

Now, turning away from Trotsky's fairy tales, let us look at some realities. Contrary to Trotsky's allegations, in the Zinoviev trial it was already pointed out by several defendants that Trotsky was working hand-in-glove with Hitler's Gestapo agents. If all the implications of this treason were not brought out fully at that trial it was clearly because the government was not yet fully aware of them, and naturally the Trotskyites on trial were eager to conceal such

a terrible crime and shame. Besides, only a few of the central figures were in Trotsky's confidence and knew the full extent of the group's plotting.

How Plot Was Exposed

Nevertheless, the Zinoviev trial did uncover enough of the Trotsky-fascist alliance so that the full extent of this counter-revolutionary plot was eventually brought to light. It is a matter of record that Radek, Piatakov and the other defendants in the recent Moscow trial, most of whom occupied high government posts and were quite trusted by the Party leadership, were exposed and arrested as a result of the revelations made by the Trotskyites themselves during the Zinoviev trial. It was the testimony of the Zinoviev case defendants also that led to the arrest of Bukharin, Rykov and others, who are yet to be tried.

That is how the shameful and criminal alliance of Trotsky with the fascists of Germany and Japan was exposed. Trotsky's story of a suicide agreement of Piatakov, Radek and the rest with Stalin is a bed-time story for political infants. The two Moscow treason trials were not and could not have been frame-ups. To use such a contemptible device as the frame-up against people whom Trotsky calls revolutionists would be utterly alien to the very nature of the Socialist regime in the USSR. Moreover, there was no possible political or personal motive for such a frame-up. To show that the whole Trotsky frame-up charge is utterly baseless, it suffices to repeat that the organization of a frame-up among so many defendants facing the firing squad and the heaping of eternal disgrace upon their names would have been physically and psychologically impossible.

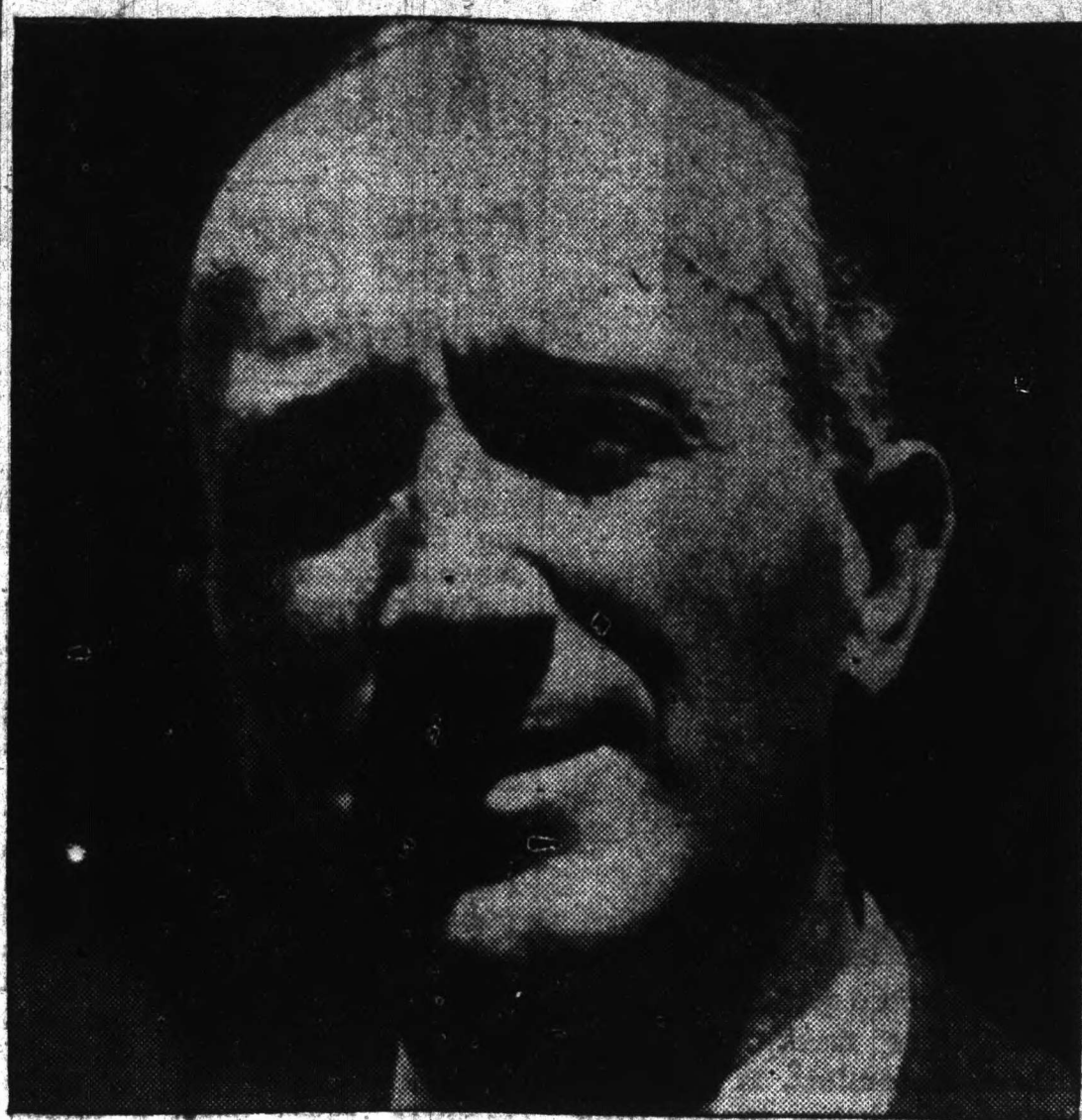
ky's latest attempt to pry out an alleged contradiction between the Zinoviev and Piatakov trials is futile. There was no such contradiction and Trotsky's synthetic story that Stalin organized a "frame-up" against the Trotskyite defendants is of a piece with the more fanciful flights in imagination of Baron Munchausen.

Ever since the rise of Hitler to power in Germany it has been increasingly the fashion among enemies of the working class everywhere to say that the Soviet proletarian dictatorship and the German fascist dictatorship are alike; to paint the Hitler despotism and the Socialist Soviet Government in the same dark color. Such people, with an air of complete finality, vociferously declare that there is no difference between the two systems of society. Both are dictatorships, they say; both are ruled arbitrarily by one man; both oppress the masses; both suppress democracy, both eliminate their opposition by blood purges, and so on. The occasion of the Moscow trials has caused a fresh outburst in the press, over the radio, etc., of this "all dictatorships are alike" theory and many people have thereby been deceived.

But this whole line of capitalist propaganda—for that is what it is—violently contradicts the facts. In reality, fascism and Socialism are extreme opposites. They are poles apart and have nothing in common. They are the mutually hostile crystallizations of the most antagonistic political and cultural elements in human society. They are bitter enemies and in irreconcilable conflict with each other. Their theories, methods of organization and purposes are fundamentally different. Fascism defends outworn, dying capitalism; the Soviets represent the coming new order of society, the next stage in social evolution, Socialism.

Decisive in determining the character of a social system is the question of which class owns the industries and the land and, therefore, which class controls the government. In Fascist Germany, as in Italy and all other fascist countries, the industries and the bulk of the land are owned by the capitalist class, and it is these parasitic elements who also control the government. The workers and other toilers have suffered a temporary but severe defeat. Fascism is the naked dictatorship of the most reactionary elements of the capitalist exploiters, and its consequence has been a rapid impoverishment of the German people. In the Soviet Union an exactly opposite situation prevails. The former exploiting classes have been completely smashed. The industries and the land are entirely owned by the people's government, which means the workers, farmers and other toilers. There are no capitalists, no landlords, no social parasites of any sort. Exploitation of man by man has been completely abolished. Production is carried on for use, not profit; and the great toiling masses get the full

William Z. Foster



benefit of every advance in industrial technique. The dictatorship of the proletariat or the Workers and Farmers Government, is the rule by these victorious toiling millions, and its results are unparalleled improvement in the conditions of the Soviet masses.

Fascism is opposed in principle to liberty and freedom. It is based on the principles of the leader deciding everything and it considers democracy a menace to capitalist class rule. It has devalued all the workers' organizations, their political parties, trade unions, cooperatives, cultural groups, etc. It has also wiped out the basic farmers' organizations and crushed the political parties of the middle class. The whole people have been regimented into iron-bound, centralist controlled organizations, whose sole aim is to enslave the masses so that they can be the more readily exploited. The sword point of fascism is directed against the toiling millions.

The Soviet Government, on the contrary, is founded on the liberty of the masses. Despite the lies of international capitalist mouthpieces, in no country in the world is there so much real democracy as in the Soviet Union. Nowhere have the toilers such a great political organization as the Communist Party, and their trade unions, cooperatives, and cultural organizations exist on a scale that utterly dwarfs those in other countries, both regarding their size and the breadth of their functions. The new Soviet Constitution raises this fundamental and growing liberty to a higher stage. This document is, as Stalin says, "the only thoroughly democratic constitution in all the world." It is characteristic that world democracy, now so viciously attacked by the fascists in Spain and every country finds in the Soviet Government its most consistent and resolute defenders. The sword point of the proletarian dictatorship is directed against the enemies and oppressors of the people and all their agents, at home and abroad.

"But," says the critics, "if the Soviet Union is a democracy why is only one party allowed to exist? Stalin has given the complete answer to this question as follows: 'The party is part of the class, its advance guard, several parties can only exist in a society where antagonistic classes exist whose interests are hostile and irreconcilable, where there are capitalists and workers, landlords and peasants, kulaks and poor peasants.'

"But in the USSR there no longer are such classes as capitalists, landlords, kulaks, etc. In the USSR there are only two classes, workers and peasants, where interests not only are not antagonistic but, on the contrary, amicable—consequently there are no grounds for the existence of several parties, and therefore for the existence of the freedom for such parties in the USSR. There are grounds for only one party, the Communist Party, in the USSR. Only one party can exist, the Communist Party, which boldly defends the interests of the workers and peasants to the very end."

Hitler is the puppet of the great German capitalists and maintained in power by demagoguery and terrorism. Stalin is not a dictator, but the freely chosen leader of a great democratic people. His tremendous prestige is not due to such leader manufacturing tactics as those of German fascism, but to his brilliant services in leading the Soviet masses victoriously in the

fremendous task of building Socialism. Hitler is a tyrant and a despot; Stalin is a great captain of the world's oppressed millions, as was Lenin, his gigantic predecessor.

Tales about the Soviet Union being overrun with secret police and about private life of the peoples being everywhere spied upon and about the masses living in terror are a tissue of lies. They are part of the world capitalist campaign that has been built up in their attempt to discredit the Soviet Union before the eyes of the world's toiling masses. The extent, activities, efficiency and ruthlessness of the former OGPU has been enormously exaggerated by enemies of the Soviet Government. The masses have no fear of this organization, which is one of their defenses against the counter-revolution. It is only the white guards, wreckers, and political assassins who dread it. And an excellent demonstration that it does not pry into the lives of the people is furnished by the fact that the wide ramifications of the Trotsky treason, assassination and sabotage could go on for so long without being exposed.

Fascism is imperialistic, and in its mad race for more territory and markets it is deliberately planning to plunge the world into a frightful war. Fascism preaches race and national hatred; it oppresses the Jews and it seeks to subordinate all people to its absurd Aryan superiority theories. Fascism, the book-burner, has enchained science and destroyed real culture; it systematically cultivates superstition and is actually trying to reinstate the pagan gods of ancient German mythology.

At the antipodes of all this new fascist barbarism, the Soviet Government stands as the world's great advocate of peace. It is the principal barrier to the war plans of the fascist butchers. In line with all this Socialism makes the cultivation of anti-Semitism and race hatred a heavily punishable crime, and the many different races and peoples within its borders live together peacefully, in equality and friendly cooperation. Socialism has stricken all shackles from science; it is the inveterate enemy of ignorance and superstition in every form; it has set under way incomparably the greatest mass-culture movement in all history.

It is an outrage to put the enlightened Soviet Government in the same category as the barbarous Hitler and Mussolini tyrannies. Fascism is night; Socialism is day. Fascism represents social reaction and decay; Socialism means the steady progress and betterment of the masses. Fascism brings tyranny and oppression to the people; Socialism brings a growing freedom and increased mass well-being. The fascist regime is the twilight of the outworn capitalist system; the Socialist order is the dawn of the new society towards which the general complex of modern social forces is drawing humanity. The misery, oppression and terror of Hitler Germany are the death agony of capitalism; the struggles and hardships of the masses in the Soviet Union, of which the recent Moscow trials are an expression, are the birth pangs of Socialism. Instead of being the same, the Fascist and Soviet systems, irreconcilable enemies, and alien to each other in every respect, represent two different worlds.

Does the Proletarian Dictatorship Breed Conspiracies?

Conscious enemies of the Soviet Union, as well as some confused liberal friends, undertake

to place upon the proletarian dictatorship itself, the Soviet Government, the blame for the development of the Trotskyite and other counter-revolutionary plots that have been exposed from time to time. The Nation (Feb. 6, 1937), voices this idea as follows:

"When a regime makes opposition illegal it sows the seeds of conspiracy; the inevitable result is the growth of plots which find their sequel in ruthless repression and in trials like the one just concluded."

In this statement The Nation is basically in error. The plots and conspiracies that have been directed so continuously against the Soviet Government do not develop because of a lack of political democracy under socialism. They arise out of the revolutionary situation in which the USSR has been since its foundation in 1917. The overthrown Russian exploiting classes, together with their fellows in the neighboring capitalist states, are quite irreconcilable to the Soviet regime. They realize fully that they have not the slightest change to gain control of the Soviet Government by peaceful means, so they constantly seize upon whatever methods the changing situation offers—armed revolt, counter-revolutionary kulak strikes, industrial wrecking, espionage, assassination, etc.—in order to destroy violently the Soviet system. The conspiratorial groups in the USSR which, during the past 20 years, have plotted and used violence against the Soviet Government, including the present Trotskyist gang, have been the spokesmen and banner-bearers of this irreconcilable and ever-watchful counter-revolution. Extending democratic civil rights to such inveterate enemies, instead of softening their antagonism, only facilitates and stimulates their anti-Soviet conspiracies.

The Record of Soviet History

This is shown clearly by a glance at Soviet history. For the first three years after the revolution there was not only the Communist Party in legal existence, but many other parties. I remember a meeting of the Moscow Soviet in 1921 which I attended where there were at least a dozen minority parties and groups represented, although of course, not the openly Czarist and capitalist parties, which were illegal. Did the prevailing freedom of speech, organization action for the legal parties other than the Communist Party after the revolution prevent counter-revolutionary conspiracies and revolt from developing among them? Most emphatically it did not. Tested in the crucible of the revolution, their policies proved counter-revolutionary. These parties became the rallying points of the overthrown ruling classes; they inevitably turned from parliamentary opposition to open struggle. It is a matter of historical record that it was precisely in this period of several legal parties that the left Social-Revolutionists carried through their armed attempt to seize the government, and it was also then that the Anarchists openly supported the counter-revolutionary Kronstadt uprising and furnished arms to their bandit leaders, Mahkono, in the Ukraine.

Within the scope of Soviet democracy free criticism is permitted, provided it is based upon a constructive attitude towards socialism. But, correctly enough, counter-revolutionary agitation and action is sternly repressed. Thus it was in the early years under Lenin's leadership, and so it is now with Stalin at the helm. The history of the Trotsky fight against the Communist Party and the Soviet Government bears out these statements.

After Lenin's death, when the Soviet Government began to enter very actively into the enormously complicated and difficult task of building socialist industry and collectivizing agriculture, a whole series of big opposition movements took shape inside the Communist Party. Each of these, confounded by the difficulties of the country's tasks, developed its own distinct political program in opposition to that of the Central Committee of the Party. Without going into all the complications of these events, suffice it to say that there was first an opposition movement led by Kamenev and Zinoviev; later developed another headed by Bukharin, Rykov and Tomsky, and finally all three groups of Trotsky, Zinoviev, and of Bukharin—combined themselves into one bloc under Trotsky's leadership and carried on a vigorous struggle against the Central Committee of the Party, led by Stalin.

These opposition groups, each in its turn and also when they were combined, were extended

## CRIME AGAINST THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF U. S.

The Trotskyites, worming their way into the Socialist Party, have just slipped something over which should bring a blush of shame and a feeling of great alarm to every Socialist whose heart beats with the struggle of his comrades in Madrid.

It is a scandalous and outrageous fact that the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party has just seen fit to pass a resolution, mind you, rebuking the brave Spanish Socialist Party, and its leader, Premier Caballero.

And just for what is it that the National Executive Committee of the S.P. found it necessary to rebuke the Spanish Socialists who face machine-gun bullets of the fascists and whose wives and children crouch under a hail of fascist bombs?

The American Socialist leadership finds it in its province to condemn the Spanish Socialists for arresting and jailing the traitorous Trotskyites in Madrid! The fighter Caballero, and his heroic Socialist comrades, found that life-and-death necessity forced them to act against the Trotskyites because the Trotskyites have been calling for violence against the Madrid Government and for mutiny in the Madrid Army.

In short, in order to save the lives of his comrades and the anti-Fascist people of Madrid, Caballero and the Spanish Socialist Party.

(Continued on Page 7)

the greatest freedom within the Party to present their policies to the membership. This was quite in accord with the Leninist tradition, Trotsky shouts all over the world that he never had a chance to discuss his program with the Party members. But this is a brazen lie. How, for instance, could it have been possible, even if Stalin had desired it, to prevent from being heard such powerful figures as Trotsky, Zinoviev, Kamenev, Bukharin, Rykov, Tomsky and other prominent figures, all of whom occupied high posts?

Five Years of Discussion

The fact is that these leaders fully expounded their policies to the Party membership and to the masses. From 1924 to 1929 the entire Party and its press rang with the historic discussion and so, also, did the whole Communist International. It was a prolonged, widespread, penetrating and intense mass political debate. Vote after vote among the Party members, in executive committees and in conventions, was taken. And the final result of it all was that the realistic policies put forth by Stalin and the Central Committee was repeatedly ratified by majorities running from 90 per cent to 98 per cent. The Russian toiling masses, as a result of the profound discussion, were able to see the disastrous implications of Trotsky's theory that socialism could not be built in the USSR and despite its many well-known defenders, they rejected it decisively.

Up to this point no restrictions whatever had been used against the Trotsky opposition. These restrictions began when Trotsky refused to accept the decisions of the Party, violated Party discipline, built an underground conspiratorial organization, and started a campaign to overthrow the Party leadership and its policies by force. And as the Trotsky group and its program gradually degenerated more and more politically, and eventually the Trotskyites took to assassination, sabotage, espionage, treason, and cooperation with Hitler, the Soviet Government had no other recourse in self-defense than corresponding to gradually increase its repression of the Trotsky movement, and finally to outlaw it altogether as counter-revolutionary and the advance guard of fascism.

Fullest Democracy

Contrary to The Nation's statement, the degeneration of the Trotsky opposition into a gang of counter-revolutionaries, and the development of its treasonable conspiracy is not due to any lack of democracy in the Soviet Union, but to the fundamentally anti-socialist character of Trotskyism, to its counter-revolutionary heart which was exposed to view by the severe pressure of the revolutionary struggle in the Soviet Union and internationally.

In Soviet democracy there is ample room for honest differences of socialist opinion, but there is no place for capitalist parties or conspiratorial gangs seeking to overthrow the workers' and peasants' government and to re-establish capitalism.

## Would You Eat Poison?

By MIKE GOLD

It is significant, in America, that there is only one trade union that I can think of which has been affected through its Trotskyite leaders by Trotskyism (I mean the Minneapolis teamsters). Most other Trotskyism is found among the literary and professional circles in a few big cities. But this is serious enough; I, for one, hate to see names like John Dos Passos, John Dewey and the like, signed to Trotskyite documents.

Most of these intellectuals are the drifter type in politics, however. They don't subscribe to the complete program of Trotsky, which is simply enough: Kill Stalin and overthrow the Soviet Government! Only a few intellectuals with an extreme case of poisoning go the whole hog; as did Max Eastman at a recent meeting, where he denounced Soviet Russia as a Fascist state, and called for a counter-revolution against the Soviets!

No, the intellectuals who have been occasionally seduced into signing Trotskyite documents are not going to be very active in their counter-revolution. Many of them find Trotskyism merely a swell alibi that covers them on their capitalist jobs. They can criticize the Soviet Union harshly, denounce the Communist dictatorship, keep their capitalist standing, and at the same time, feel virtuous and revolutionary with Trotsky. Personally, I cannot respect anyone whose main revolutionary job is on the Times, Tribune, or Hearst Journal, fighting the Soviets.

Other more honest intellectuals wander into this dubious company, not because they believe Kirov and Stalin ought to be assassinated, but because they have an unreasonable sympathy for the "under-dog" in all situations, and Trotsky seems to them an "under-dog" who has been deeply wronged by the Soviets.

Intellectuals Who Do Not Read

This is a position that has to be understood and respected. It is true such people are "lazy-minded." You cannot get them to make a serious study of all the facts and documents in this case. They are intellectuals, but they don't read.

They don't want to hear about the four or five years that Trotsky engaged in which to freely spread his program among the Soviet masses, using the whole Soviet press and Party machine for his propaganda. He lost out with the masses, however, and then did what every egotist does—formed a personal, secret faction.

This is history, but many American intellectuals don't design to study revolutionary history. They think it is enough to take an emotional attitude toward Trotsky. The fact that they have no responsibility for the fate of 180 million Soviet citizens adds to their light-hearted approach to the whole Trotsky case.

Trotsky has not been given a fair trial, they say. But have they given the Soviet Union a fair trial?

How monstrously unfair, how ignorantly slanderous they can be, when so lightly, they can accuse the Soviet leaders of pulling a Reichstag fire frame-up trial in Moscow recently! Even an American police court magistrate is fairer than these intellectuals. When a man charged with drunkenness or vagrancy appears, and defends himself by saying he is a worker, the judge often looks at his hands, to see if they are a workers' hands. The hands of the Soviet leaders are workers' hands, that have built and are building the first Socialist society in history. How could such hands commit a frame-up?

And that Trotskyites would turn to conspiracy and assassination should not be too incredible—Boris Souvarine, a French Trotskyite, was openly preaching assassination in his paper a few years ago.

Read! Read! Think!

If I were one of these intellectuals who are being used by the Trotskyites I would think twice before joining the counter-revolution.

I would think twice before I joined in the attempt to assassinate in France and Spain and other countries, the united front which is our last dice against fascism.

I would worry a little lest I might be helping fascism, in helping this "under-dog" Trotsky. I would read and think in this grave hour, not merely emotive.

MEMORIAL FOR FLYER

NEW YORK—A Ben Leizer Memorial Fund is being raised by fellow newspaper men for the aviator who was killed in the services of the Spanish loyalist government.

## TROTSKYITES BRANDED AS MINERS' FOE

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—"Trotskyism is a disruptive force and always plays into the hands of reaction," declares the Subdistrict committee of the Illinois Communist Party, outlining the activities of the Trotskyites in the Illinois mine fields, and showing that they are enemies of workers' unity, and friends of the exploiting coal barons.

"In the Illinois coal fields, their role of disruption and reaction dates back many years," the Party group declares. "Of late their position has penetrated and has influenced members of the Socialist Party to follow their path of reaction. In 1932, when the Progressive Miners of America was organized, several members of the PMA who were influenced by Trotskyism were in leading positions in the union."

When the fight started between the progressive forces and the forces of reaction, these Trotsky influenced people gave in without a struggle. At every turn of the fight they gave in and influenced other miners to quit their fight against the reactionaries in the PMA. This policy of reaction leads them again on the side of the coal operators. It leads them into the same camp with the forces that always oppose any progressive move. It places them on the side of the reactionary, Fascist-minded officials of the PMA, who are doing their utmost to defeat the unification of the Illinois miners.

Hail USSR Trials

"Today," the statement continues, "the Illinois miners are fighting for unity. April 1 is approaching. The struggle for a new agreement, for a 30-hour week and increases in pay, demand a solid unified organization of the miners in the coal fields. In the struggle for unity, we see the Trotskyite influence at work to keep the miners split and hopeless against the operators. In the elections to the Scale Convention, some Socialists under Trotskyite influence refused to run, thus giving their place to the reactionary opponents of unity. The officials of the PMA are the ones to welcome such a move. They have issued a warning in their press against the election of progressive militant miners to the scale convention. This refusal by the Socialists to run in the elections plays right into their hands."

What more proof is needed to show that Trotskyism is only the tool of reaction and despite any words of these people, leads into the camp of reaction.

"But the work of the Trotskyites and those so influenced, is daily being repudiated by many members of the Socialist Party and other progressive workers. The Communist Party of Illinois coal fields calls to all those who stand for peace and progress to fight against this poisonous sect and to drive them once and for all from the American labor movement."

"We hail the action of the proletarian court of the USSR against these agents of Hitler and Japan. We are proud that, in one-sixth of the world, the workers have the power to deal justice as these rats deserve. We pledge to fight for the Soviet Union and against the Soviet traitors to attack us, and any threat to the peace of the world."

## Hollywood C. P. Members Hail the Fight on Trotsky

RESOLUTION

Because of the attack made upon the Builders of Socialism in the Soviet Union and because of the threat to the World Revolutionary movement, 100, assembled in General Membership meeting in the Hollywood Section, Feb. 14, 1937, unanimously condemn the counter-revolutionary action of the would-be wreckers of Socialism and fully agree to the justice meted out to them by our brothers in the U.S.S.R.

We hereby express our solidarity with the rest of our American comrades in clarifying the issue made muddy by the American counter-part of the Trotskyite wreckers and pledge our full support to our Central Committee of our Party and to weed out all Trotskyites from the ranks of the working class. General Membership, Communist Party, Hollywood, California.



# Workers' Correspondence Page ::

## LEGISLATION MEETS IN E. BAY SUCCESS

### 5 Assembly District Rallies Support People's Bills

By a Worker Correspondent

OAKLAND—Last of the series of meetings in the assembly districts in relation to the California People's Legislative Conference program was held Friday evening, February 26, Lowell Jr. High School. About 200 attended.

Charley Wagner was the main speaker and said the people would never get to first base unless they organized in a broad group like the California People's Legislative Conference, and worked together to get their bills through.

**Off to Good Start**  
George Beers, Workers' Alliance, talked on the social security bills. Ishmael Florey, of National Negro Congress stated that the large number of persons who had signed up to work in the campaign at assembly district meetings was an indication that we had gotten off to a good start.

Assemblyman E. E. Patterson, Monterey County, was not scheduled to speak but was called. He praised the start the Conference had made as a movement in the right direction.

Assemblyman Breed (16th Dist.) was sent a registered invitation to speak at the meeting, but didn't answer. Senator Knowland regretted because he expected to be in Southern California on that date, and Assemblyman Mehan (17th Dist.) regretted because he said he had to be in Sacramento but could not be counted on to support "all labor and humanitarian bills."

**Needs People's Pressure**  
At the 19th Assembly District meeting on February 25, Assemblyman Dahnenbrink pointed out he had introduced some of the bills on the Conference program, and said out of all the hundred bills, there were three he was not sure he would support—anti-vigilante, repeal of sales tax, and removing compulsory military training for college and high school students.

Assemblyman Cassidy didn't answer a registered invitation to the 13th Assembly District meeting on February 25 at Lockwood School. Speakers were Anga Bjornson, Glenn Mayfield, V. V. Dart, Carpenters' Union, and Clarence Anderson, Workers' Alliance.

**Assemblyman Johnson "Stalled"**  
At the 14th Assembly District meeting at Haight School, Alameda, on February 23, Assemblyman Johnson spoke.

Assemblyman Donihue couldn't attend the 15th Assembly District meeting because of work in Sacramento. Assemblyman Gardner Johnson spoke at the 19th Assembly District meeting on February 17, but didn't talk on the program or anything else, just stalled.

## OIL UNION GOING TO TOWN AMONG SPRINGS FIELDS

### Wilshire Co. Solicits Meet As Union Grows Fast

By an Oil Worker  
SANTA FE SPRINGS, L. A. County—Storm and rain have not retarded the union drive of the Santa Fe Springs oil workers.

Nearly 50 new members were initiated at the meeting on Thursday, February 25. All union men are working hard to bring their fellow workers into the union. Exceptional credit must be given to Joe Longeval in the Wilshire Refinery.

**Wilshire Coming to Time**  
The hall was packed and all standing room taken. A feeling of good fellowship and unity prevailed, and everyone wanted to talk at once.

Many workers from the Texaco, General Petroleum, Union and Shell companies are coming in.

The Wilshire management has already solicited a conference. Don Weaver, Wilshire superintendent of drilling and production, called a meeting of the workers in his departments. He said, "The rumor has gone around that I am opposed to the union. You fellows have got me wrong. If any man wants to join the union, it's no concern

## Junior Union Is Organizing Now In The Islands

By a Worker Correspondent  
HONOLULU—Bootblacks and newsboys in this city are organizing into a union with the assistance of the waterfront workers.

This union was started about three or four weeks ago and is growing. It is similar to the Junior Union of Bootblacks and Newsboys on the San Francisco waterfront, with headquarters at 32 Clay St.

All children doing bootblack work or selling newspapers are urged to join either union.

## UNION NEEDED IN CANNERIES IN MODESTO

### Wage Increases Won From 2 Canning Companies

By a Cannery Worker

MODESTO—Wage increases of 10 to 15 per cent were announced by the Pratt-Low Preserving Co. cannery, located in Modesto, and the Turlock Cooperative Growers' canneries, one of which is located in Turlock and the other is located six miles north of Modesto on the McHenry Highway and is known as the Sun Garden Cannery.

This increase in pay will make the wages about 50 cents an hour for men and 40 cents an hour for women.

**Infamous Exploiters**  
The Pacific Grape Products Cannery and the Tri-Valley Cannery, both located in Modesto, will not make any statements as to a raise in pay or not. The Pacific Grape Products Cannery is putting in new machinery to run spinach this year, which will be their first run in spinach.

Both the Pacific Grape Products Cannery and the Tri-Valley Cannery are noted for their cheap wages, paying 35 cents an hour to men, while other canneries are paying 40 cents an hour.

All the canneries are noted for their long, health-breaking hours.

**Need Organization**  
Workers of Modesto will always be confronted with cheap chiselers, who glorify with paying their employees small wages and working them long hours, as long as the workers are passive and unorganized.

Persons who work in canneries, dry yards or in the orchards, who are interested in organizing for better wages, shorter hours, safer and healthier working conditions should leave their name and address at the Labor Temple, 606 10th St., Modesto, so that they can be contacted.

## 'Revolutionists' To Be Shown In S. F.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Soviet pictures dealing with the revolution have heretofore dealt mainly with events since that change came. In "Revolutionists" which comes to the Clay Theater, for one week opening Saturday, March 6, the film goes back to 1896 and shows the methods of the men who promulgated and carried forward the work of bringing freedom to the people of the Czar.

Even a study in customs, costumes and the civic status of the ordinary man in the street in Russia under the old regime "Revolutionists" is a fine picture. It needs no imagined story for its thrills, since the lives and adventures of the men and women who dared to band together was so exciting it needed to be set down as lived in order to make an entertaining story. The dialogue is in Russian but there are full English titles.

of mine."

**Phoney Trick**  
He pointed out, however, that the union leaders were "outside" men, and were not as familiar with the needs of Wilshire employees as the men themselves. The workers should organize into small groups, he suggested, according to the gangs in which they worked, and each elect a representative. Weaver said he would deal with each representative separately and "go to the bat" for them with the management.

So far the workers in the drilling and production departments are the only hold-back to making the Wilshire 100 per cent union.

## UPHOLSTERERS STILL BATTLE OPEN-SHOP CO.

### Los Angeles Union Is Backed by Labor And Farmers

By an Upholsterer

LOS ANGELES—For the last five months, Upholsterers' Local 15 has carried on a vigorous fight against the Krohler Manufacturing Co. in Inglewood, Mass. picket lines continue despite intimidation by police and an anti-picketing ordinance, and the arrests of nine pickets.

The strikers are still solid 100 per cent. No worker has broken ranks. The members of the union enthusiastically donate five per cent of their weekly wages to carry on the fight.

**Farmers and Labor Aid in U. S.**  
At the present, a national labor boycott is being instituted against Krohler. Stores are being picketed in Eastern cities as well as in Los Angeles. Picketing and boycott is carried on in the east in conjunction with Farmers' Holiday Assn.

Recently Local 15 conducted picket lines around Stocking and Hynes Furniture Store, 1938 East 1st St. The picket line lasted two hours and the owner gave in and removed Krohler furniture from show windows, promising not to sell Krohler furniture.

Another mass picket line took place at Pico Furniture, 5025 West Pico Blvd., and will continue until we lick him.

**Plan Picketing in Pedro**  
A large committee went to San Pedro to arrange mass picket lines there at Montgomery, Ward & Co., which is a clearing house for Krohler, taking 80 per cent of Krohler's furniture for sale. They were once warned, but defied the union.

We must get an okay from the San Pedro Labor Council, because retail clerks in Montgomery Ward are organized, which will be arranged. The labor movement will also picket some furniture stores in Oakland. The Krohler plant in San Francisco is shut tight for five months.

This general fight against Krohler will not doubt awaken and eventually win collective bargaining for the workers. Demands for prevailing union wage, union recognition, no discrimination and no layoffs.

## Standard and Shell Trying to Evade Social Security

By a Filling Station Worker

SAN FRANCISCO—Obviously to evade the Social Security Act, the Standard Oil and Shell Oil, starting March 1, will lease to their employees, the stations such employees are operating now.

The person who reports this is owner of an independent station. He also adds that all major oil companies will do that so as to do away with paying out any money at all for social security.

However, the registration of employees ended last December 31. Does a lease break that record in any way?

## SIT-DOWN IN CAFES

DETROIT—Several restaurants have been closed down by sit-down strikes of waiters, waitresses and cooks in this city.

This recalls an incident in which a Los Angeles relief ex-

slowly took shape. It seemed suspended in the air. The piers were invisible in the heavy, hanging fog. The effect was frightful and beautiful at the same time—fantastic but real.

The hills of Marin, right from the water's edge, roll up and away into space. The S.S. "Glacier" glided under the bridge, and the lights of the Presidio blinked a silent welcome. A deep silence prevailed on deck for a moment. Then everybody began to laugh and talk at once.

The crap game broke up for lack of customers. (I wonder who won the pool.) Everybody began to carry their luggage on deck. The sailors, in preparation for the landing, could hardly make their way through the swarms of men. Everybody was in everybody else's way.

We rounded the point and headed midstream. Familiar landmarks were pointed out by the men, as though to bolster their own memory. As we swung around for the pier, a Vallejo ferry came scudding around. It slowed us up. After an age, it passed, and we drifted into Pier 21.

A large group of men, women and children were on hand to meet the ship, waiting for their loved ones. I looked them all over, hoping to catch a glimpse of the young lady who had waved a farewell to me (and 475 other men), curious to know

## As War Preparations Increase



A NEW DEVICE, intended for use of hospital patients and invalids, is demonstrated in London. The mask, permitting wearer to move about freely without discomfort, is equipped with a hand air pump for use against poison gas attacks from the air. People's peace movement must be built to prevent war.

## LABOR AND POLITICS In California and Nationally

By John Broman

SPEAKER WM. MOSLEY JONES, of the State Assembly, has taken offices in the McAdoo suite in Los Angeles. No more need be said about this used-to-be Epic, but it's interesting to note that Assemblyman Patterson, Monterey County, charged that Jones made a deal to get McAdoo's support for lieutenant-governor in 1938.

## Sacramento Sets Pace

Sacramento Federated Trades Council is now setting the pace in the growing movement for independent political action by labor. Last week it elected five progressive delegates as a committee to organize a conference for independent political action by labor, liberals and progressives.

The committee members are Dudley, president of the Switchmen's Union; Bingham, president of the Warehousemen's Union, ILA; Smith, Stationary Engineers; Patton, Electrical Workers, and Titus, Typographical Union.

## There's Money Enough

Administration spokesmen in Congress tell leaders of labor, the unemployed, etc., that their program for social legislation, adequate relief, a real slum-clearance and low rent housing project, old age pensions, etc., would cost too much money.

Last week the House received a favorable report on Roosevelt's program for U. S. Navy expansion—for war preparations—to the tune of half a billion dollars. The "Neutrality" Act, prepared by the Administration, does not say a word against the U. S. preparing for a war.

## Back Where He Came From

Lieutenant Governor Hatfield recently spoke to a Legionnaire meeting in Riverside, and, as is his custom, he shouted: "The radicals and Communists must be sent back where they came from."

This recalls an incident in which a Los Angeles relief ex-

ecutive shouted that he was going to have Clyde Champion, unemployed leader, sent back where he came from.

"Where to?" asked Champion.

"To Texas!"

Anyway, with the rapidly advancing Labor Party movement in California, it looks like the people of our state might send Lieutenant Governor Hatfield back where he came from—after the 1938 elections. And that would be back to his old career as a shyster lawyer.

## Old People Betrayed

During and immediately after the 1936 election campaign many state assemblymen were talking high, wide and handsome about what they were going to do for the aged of California. Tom Finn's man, Assemblyman Thomas A. Maloney of the 20th District, San Francisco, even introduced a bill increasing the minimum payment to pensioners to \$50 monthly.

Now that elections are over until 1938, Maloney and the other fakers who went out for Townsend votes on the basis of "promises," are deciding that it would be too expensive to increase pensions.

Maloney said there would be virtually no increase in old-age pensions unless the federal government "cooperates by assuming some share of the added cost."

Pensions adequate for the aged would be expensive, but not too expensive if the costs are borne primarily by those

## ALAMEDA COPS HERDING SCABS AT CAL. PACK.

### Police Dept.'s Autos Used for Carrying Strike-breakers

By a Worker Correspondent

ALAMEDA—The warehouse employees of the California Packing Corp. at Escorial Terminals are out on strike.

The company is hiring scabs furnishing cars and guarding and transporting these scabs to and from work. This has been going on ever since the waterfront strike has been settled.

This came to my attention today, when the landlord where I live, told me of seeing eight police cars in front of his place. He asked what the trouble was and the reply was that there was no trouble. He asked then what all the machines were there for. He got no reply but in a few minutes, there were a number of men came and got in the machines, and the machines drove away.

## May Be From Salinas

I told a friend of mine who works in a store, about this incident, and he said that he was told that the officers doing this were not part of the regular city force. The ones doing this are supposed to be a special force organized during the Salinas lettuce strike, and they are supposed to be sent from place to place wherever there is labor trouble.

I have not been able to check up on this, but my landlord said he recognized several city police officers among the crowd he saw. He said there were some among them that he didn't know. So it is possible that there may be such a force of scabherders to go from place to place, and coach the local police in the fine art of running scabs and handling a strike according to the wishes of such firms as the Cal. Pack.

## Note for Alaska Cannery Workers

In the Western Worker of Thursday, February 25, an article was printed attacking Brother Colman, recording secretary of the Alaska Cannery Workers Union, which was sent in to the Western Worker by a worker correspondent.

This article does not represent either the opinions of the rank-and-file of the ACWA, or the opinions of the Communists in the union.

The editorial staff of the Western Worker printed the article on the basis of insufficient and incorrect information, and regrets that the article was printed. It is not the policy of the Western Worker to conduct unwarranted attacks or criticisms upon labor leaders.

(Signed) ALASKA CANNERY WORKERS UNIT, COMMUNIST PARTY, SAN FRANCISCO.

who can afford them—the rich. Jack up the taxes on the higher incomes, on corporate profits, on inheritances, and you'll have more than enough money to insure a decent old age for those who have served their time in American industry and agriculture.

## Strength in Union Found by Dyers And Cleaners

By a Cleaning Worker

SAN FRANCISCO—The cleaners and dyers in the F. Thomas & Allec plants are quickly taking initiative. They are beginning to realize that in unity, collective bargaining is a gain for all the workers.

There is peace and understanding in the shop since the dismissal of the forelady, as demanded by the union. The manager has also changed in disposition, and now the workers feel they can work without feeling "The Man With a Whip" is behind them.

## Women Getting Active

The workers are attentive at union meetings and gradually losing the fear often noticed in new members. I believe also that it is safe to announce the women members will be taking an active part. I am exerting everything in my power toward rallying to the aid of the women members who take the floor at union meetings and express themselves.

Although our organization is a young union, it is apparent that espionage by the bosses and their agents is not going to undermine our members. On the whole, watch the Cleaners, Dyers and Pressers Union and see it grow. There is the making of a fine union.

## Warehousemen Keep Up Alameda Picket

ALAMEDA—The Warehousemen's Union, ILA will continue picketing the Alameda City Hall until officials there quit stalling and prosecute D.S. Dodge, murderous California Packing Corp. guard.

The Warehousemen insist on a felony charge against Dodge, who wounded Al Marino, 23-year old warehouseman, in an attack on the Cal-Pak picket line last Thursday.

The warehousemen at first conducted a sit-down inside the City Hall, and have been picketing peacefully at the City Hall since last Friday.

## FALSE ISSUES BROUGHT TO PILE-DRIVERS

### Reactionaries Try to Pit Local Against Local in S. F.

By a Pile-Driver

SAN FRANCISCO—The extent to which the reactionaries will go in order to distort and confuse issues, was very ably demonstrated at the regular meeting of Pile-Drivers Local No. 34. A resolution was presented by a sister local, No. 22, asking that the officers of the District Council of Carpenters be elected by referendum, instead of by the delegates.

**Borders on Perjudice**  
The fact that the issue was incorrect did not enter the discussion. On the other hand, in order to defeat the issue, Brothers Campiano, Al McDonald and Campzell resorted to the raising of false issues, bordering on prejudice and hate.

**Every tactic was used in order Locals 22 and 34.**

We members who believe in the unity of labor must be prepared to combat these attacks, that are used primarily in order to create prejudice and hatred among unionists.

The real remedy that must be used, is to see that the proper caliber of delegates are elected into these bodies. By so doing, it will not be long before the phonies will be outside looking in.

## Impractical Proposal

The mistake of our brothers in Local 22 was the raising of such an issue. It can be seen that a direct referendum is quite impractical and would be the means of creating confusion among the bodies of the A.F. of L. besides nullifying the action of our elected delegates.

**Our efforts must be directed to the election of progressive rank-and-file delegates.**

## GREEN ENJOINED

COLUMBUS, O.—A temporary injunction restraining William Green from revoking the local labor council's charter has been won. The council refused to condemn the CIO.

OAKLAND

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**March 27th**

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## SEEING RED

BY MICHAEL QUIN

**SUPPOSE** even lice are fond of themselves and argue with each other about whether one is lousier than another.

I notice in the January issue of "Readers Digest" an article by Theodore Durein entitled "Scabs Paradise." In it, Durein brags about his experience as a strikebreaker during the 1934 Pacific Coast maritime strike. He was one of the rats who infested Pier 32 and was quartered aboard the famous scab ship "Diana Dollar."

Numerous wild statements indicate that Durein is probably a liar as well as a scab. I cannot vouch for the accuracy of his report.

For one thing, he claims that the scabs accomplished as much work as the regular stevedores, and as efficiently, thus enabling the shipowners to break the strike. The fact of the matter is, to all practical purposes, not a vessel sailed out of San Francisco during the strike and not an ounce of cargo moved—regardless of how strenuously the scabs may have hoisted the merchandise around inside the covered docks.

Later on, he says of the scabs: "The only job in which they weren't as competent as the old hand was that of stowing cargo in the hold, so that it wouldn't shift at sea. This, it seems, takes years of experience and a sixth sense."

This is as much as to say, a butcher can cut out your appendix as efficiently as a doctor; the only difference being that he would kill you in the process.

When cargo shifts in the hold of a vessel at sea, the vessel generally capsizes. That is what happened to the ill-fated "Vestris." And anyone foolish enough to book passage on a vessel loaded by scab labor might just as well go canoeing with an epileptic.

ACCORDING to Durein, the scabs were pampered and indulged like a bunch of "fagots" in an East Indian harem. They had elegant staterooms, running water, shower baths, clean linen and towels daily, and "Number One Boys" to clean up after them. As for the food, he says: "The best of everything was served at meals. I have seen a worker (he means a scab—Q) tuck away a beefsteak, top it off with strawberry shortcake smothered in ice cream, and wash it down with a quart of milk. We had two movies nightly, with the latest talkies, newsreels and cartoons. . . All this was free, offered as inducements to keep us in confinement. Our enormous pay checks were clear profit.

"Of course, there were ways to spend money. There was the barber shop for instance. The first barber vanished after several weeks with the savings of a number of lambs he had shorn two ways. But there was really no sense in banking with the barber. Two leading banks had office hours on the ship weekly. One banker told me that some of the boys banked over \$1,000 during the strike. They were earning better than \$90 a week."

If the shipowners can afford to give wages and living conditions like the above to scabs, there is, of course, no reason why they should not give the same to honest workers. In view of this, it would seem logical for the seamen to demand beef steak and strawberry shortcake smothered in ice cream at every meal.

The rat goes on to say: "Then there was beer which could be purchased by the case at the cafeteria, and tobacco, clothes, shoes, etc., at usual prices at the store. The last and easiest way to part with money was in gambling. Blackjack and craps flourished in the dining saloon every night."

It was always my understanding that gambling was against the law. Still, I guess as rats, these men were regarded as part of the Fleshpucker Zoo, and thus exempt from the statutes.

He describes his fellow scabs as: "mostly pasty-faced clerks, house-to-house salesmen, college students and a motley array of unemployed who had never shouldered anything heavier than a BVD strap before."

It will be remembered that at that time the shipowners referred to the scabs as their "loyal employees who did not want to strike."

Durein also says: "Some of the scabs were hard nuts, imported strikebreakers from Los Angeles and Chicago."

## Letters: From Readers of The Western Worker

Comrade Editor: We, the branches, and also a number of individual members, of the Workers' Esperanto Association of North America, receive regularly large bundles of the "Popola Fronto," for free distribution among the American esperantists.

The editor of "Popola Fronto" requested that we send all the available addresses of American Esperantists, Esperanto groups and classes to the publishers of the P. F. The paper will be delivered free of charge of all the addresses.

"Popola Fronto" has proved itself very useful in spreading information on the present civil war in Spain. It has been smuggled into Germany and Italy by worker esperantists and it is doing a really good service for the Loyalist cause everywhere. It has many thousands of readers all over the world.

There is no subscription or any other kind of price for receiving this paper. It is being published by voluntary contributions of esperantists and it will be delivered regularly to anyone who can and cares to read it. Please publish this communication in the Western Worker as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,  
Secretary, Labor Esperanto Assn. of North America, P. O. Box 100, New York City.

Editor, Western Worker:

A story recently printed in the "Western" went a long way toward winning my wife over toward the Party. It quoted the Patriot Priest of Ireland, Father Michael O'Flanagan, praising the Spanish People's Front, damning the Fascists, and also praising the Soviet Union. It also contained statements by Frank Ryan, Left Wing Republican leader, and Thos. Irwin, of the Old Dublin Brigade, Irish Republican Army, in favor of the Spanish government.

My wife is Irish, and when she read what these famous Irish leaders had stated, it was a revelation to her. These statements should be broadcast among all Irish people in California, and

particularly among the Irish Catholics.

Comradely yours,  
L. P.

Verse, Wyo.

Western Worker: Please find enclosed my contribution of \$1 as I promised. I also sent \$1 in the latter part of December, and I'll send another 25 cents pay day from now on.

My donation is so that our paper can reach the \$12,000 quota, and then I can be sure of enjoying the kind of a newspaper I like.

A. J.

Keep It Coming  
Editor: Keep the Western Worker coming. We are new readers, but enjoy it very much and feel it is the only news we can rely on.

Mrs. H. W.

Long Beach, Calif.  
Editor, Western Worker: I have been watching our Western Worker drive for funds, and our unit is again giving a house party this month. We hope it is as successful as our big turkey dinner was.

E. W.

Commonwealth Fed.  
Scores Victory At Seattle Polls

SEATTLE — Hugh DeLacy, whose dismissal as University of Washington instructor for political activity made him the storm center of municipal affairs, appears certain of election to the city council following a sweeping Washington Commonwealth Federation victory in the primaries.

Every labor and liberal group is supporting DeLacy in the March 9 final election. The Central Labor Council endorsed him unanimously.

The W.C.F. and over 40 trade unions supported DeLacy and his running mate, Earl Gunther, in the primaries, but the latter missed nomination by a narrow margin.

## California A Working Class History By Ned Dahl

II  
THERE was nothing idyllic about the "civilization" brought by the Spanish grandees to the native Indians of California.

Once baptized into the Church the Indians were looked upon as part of the mission's property. Freedom was a thing of the past.

The Indians ate, slept, worked, as and when they were ordered by the Friars. The lash, the stocks, and even death were the lot of the Indian who re-

laxed in the slightest from the stiff discipline laid down by the friars.

With the gradual growth of the white population, the use of A. Robinson, who wrote at a later date of the Indians' lot under the friars, describes it as similar to that of convicts working in the prison factory. He writes of Alcaldes driven to religious services under the lash of the Alcaldes' whips.

Feudal Serfs  
Alexander Forbes, in his "Life in Upper and Lower California," insists that the lot of the Chris-

tianized Indians was that of feudal serfs.

Desertions by the Indians grew more frequent. Armed expeditions sent to bring the Indians back met with sharper resistance. The once peaceful Indians of California were being goaded into warlike action.

In 1801 there were less than 1500 whites in California. Mainly they were the priests, the soldiery, and grandees.

Soon sailors who jumped ship to escape the horrible sea-going conditions of the way, or who had been shipwrecked, began

to add to the white population. Of Mexicans and Spaniards to perform more the skilled tasks became common. Their wages were little better than those of the Indians: \$3 to \$10 a month and board.

The lot of the Indians continued to be that of slavery in the missions. It was not until September 25, 1829, that slavery was abolished at least in theory in California. The abolition was indeed only one of theory, for the lot of the Indians continued much as before.

(To be continued.)

## Your Health

By F. E. BISSELL, M.D.

Varicose Leg Ulcers

"AFTER a bad case of Phlebitis," writes M. B. Santa Cruz, ulcers formed on my legs, which I have had ever since. Now have one big ulcer on my leg. I would also like to inquire how I can join the Workers' Alliance."

Answer—You should have a blood Wassermann test to rule out venereal disease. If the test is negative, your ulcers are undoubtedly due to varicose veins.

The varicose veins should be treated by the modern injection method. There are many forms of treatment for the ulcers and many must be tried before a successful treatment will be found. The following are some forms of treatment which have been found to be effective: The Unna Paste Boot, treatment with an elastic bandage, and treatment with "Elastoplast."

You should ask that all this be done for you at the county clinic and should write me just what form of treatment you are receiving. I don't believe that there is a Workers' Alliance local in Santa Cruz, but it seems to me that there are enough militant unemployed there to form a good local.

Stomach Ulcers

Merced, Calif.

Dear Dr. Bissell: My husband has had stomach ulcers for the past three years and at the same time he has become so radical that he is a fanatic. He is 45 years of age and his manhood is not as strong as it used to be.

A. M.  
Answer—Between the ages of 40 and 60, the sexual life of both men and women is normally reduced. There is nothing that can be done to change this.

There are very few cases of stomach ulcers that cannot be cured. A medical treatment should be first tried and for this it is necessary to go to bed for a month at least. If you are unable to afford private medical service, your husband should insist that he be placed in the county hospital for this period. In case medical treatment fails, it is usually necessary to operate and cut out the ulcerous areas from the stomach.

## Crime Against U.S. Socialist Party

(Continued from Page 5)

cialists SIMPLY HAD TO SMASH TROTSKYISM.

And now the Trotskyites in the Socialist Party have the damnable gall to sneak over a decision on the rest of the Party condemning the heroic Spanish Socialists, and they have the gall to speak in the name of unity!

But it was in order to crush the most contemptible and treacherous foe of unity that the brave Spanish Party was forced by life itself to deliver a smashing blow at Trotskyism! It was to cement unity that the Trotskyites had to be arrested.

There is not a single observer in Madrid who would not admit that the seizure of the Trotskyites has been greeted with joy by the UNITED DEFENDERS OF MADRID.

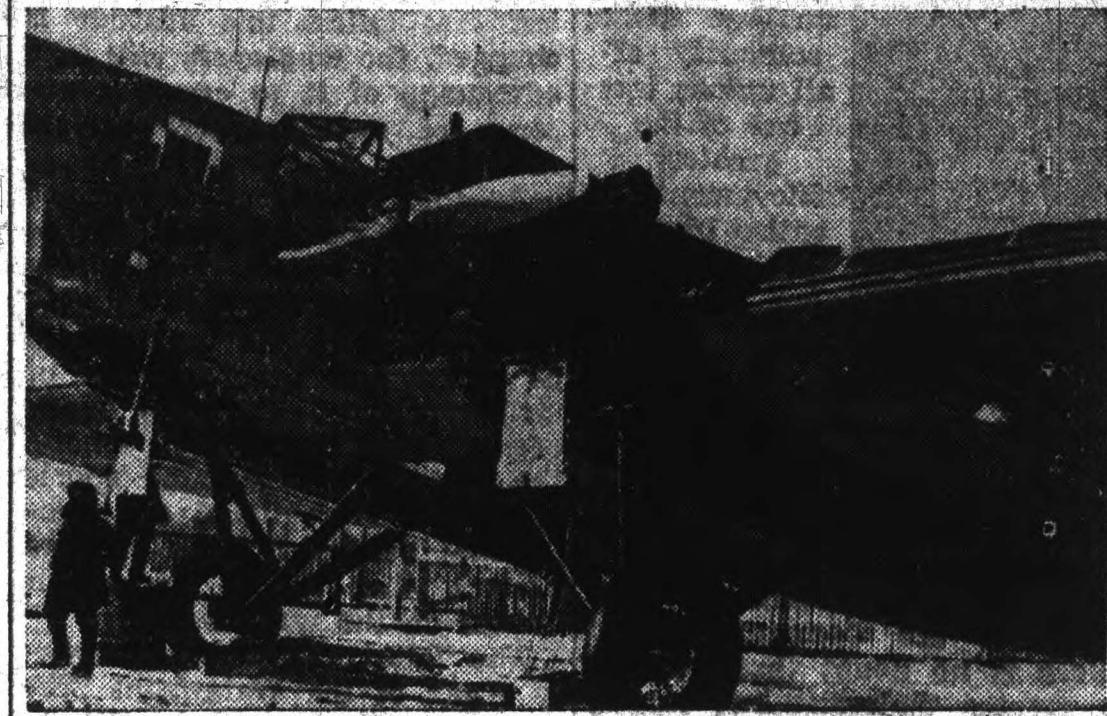
The question for every Socialist now is—If Trotskyism had been unmasked by the greatest Socialist in Spain, Largo Caballero, as a viper to be crushed, then will Trotskyism find its latest defender in the leading body of the American Socialist Party?

Do American Socialists want to become identified with the traitorous enemies of Caballero and the Spanish comrades who are spilling their blood in battle?

The decision of the NEC is a hideous blot, a crime against the Madrid Government, a crime against all American Socialists.

Honest Socialists will lose no time in seeing that it is wiped off the record, and the Trotskyite scoundrels responsible for it driven out of a working class party.

## Back After a Flight Across the Arctic 98 Writers Hit Spain Fascists



ENDING A 20,000 mile flight across the Siberia arctic wastes, this 8-ton twin-motored Soviet plane returns to Moscow. It was equipped with a special heating apparatus to combat degrees of 70 below zero.

## Hollywood Review

Some Stars and Franco

Hollywood — A report from Salamanca states that Franco's would be Spanish white government has forbidden all films made in Hollywood and bearing the names of Actors Paul Muni or Louise Rainer, Directors Lewis Milestone or Frank Tuttle, Writers Upton Sinclair, Clifford Odets, Liam O'Flaherty, Dudley Nichols or Humphrey Cobb, or Producer Kenneth MacGowan.

The reason, not given in the report, is very simple: Those are some of the people who have attended dinners in behalf of Spain's legal government out here, and who have given money and sent wires of encouragement. All that we can say, is that Franco is very ill-informed for 10 times this many Hollywoodians have been working actively for the peoples government, and will go on, Franco bans notwithstanding.

Where He When Fights Went On

When the mike went dead at the Youth Dance of Hollywood's Anti-Nazi League, Fred Keating, who was master of ceremonies, quietly asked: "Is Howard Emmet Rogers in the house?" There was a panic of laughter. Rogers is the writer who attends all the labor meetings, to keep tab on "subversive" personalities in the film industry.

Recent sitdown strike victories are giving new impetus to the unionizing drive in show business. Latest group to start organizing are radio announcers. Work is quietly going on toward forming a union for them, then affiliate it with the American Federation of Labor.

Along the same lines, independent movie operators in Southern California, who have been having constant labor trouble because some among them hold out against union projectionists, have decided to give up the fight. It means a closed shop in the independent theaters. Major movie houses in the region are already in agreement with the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees. Ernest Toller's Play On Federal Boards

"No More Peace," the new play by Ernest Toller, exiled German playwright now at M. G. M. will go into all the main

theatres of the Federal Theatre Project setup.

A poll of critics taken by the Minneapolis Journal names Mr. Deeds goes to Town as the best picture of the year, with the Great Ziegfeld second; Paul Muni in Pasteur and Louise Rainer in Ziegfeld lead actors and actresses. Ruth Nurm, University of Southern California high-diver and said to be a niece of famed long distance runner Paavo Nurmi, is making screen tests for Warners.

It Must Have Made The Colgate Sputter

Best story in an age, to us is the one about that famous comedian, with eyes of two different colors, who, being in a New York restaurant recently was told by the waiter that a gentleman at a nearby table wanted his autograph. Flattered, the dialectician glanced at his admirer. The man was very obviously a wealthy southern plantation owner. So, quick as a whip, the comedian wrote the autograph. But above his signature, he inscribed: "Free the Scottsboro Boys!"

Our Mailbag: H.F. Chicago:

We suggest you do not count too heavily on the Disney studio ads for young artists which you enclose. First of all, the Cartoonists Guild is organizing strongly and it is possible Disney is looking for eventual strikebreakers; second, he has always used numerous "apprentices," very few of whom have ever been promoted to full artist rating.

## L.A. Labor In Sharp Protest at Douglas Sit-Down Arrests

LOS ANGELES—Carrying out the resolution enthusiastically adopted at the meeting of the Central Labor Council last Friday, J. W. Buzzell, Secretary of the Council, J. W. Gillette of the Musicians' Union, and Aubrey Blair of the Screen Actors' Guild Tuesday, March 2, visited District Attorney Buren Fitts, and "sharply protested" his arrest of 342 sit-down strikers last Thursday at the Douglas aircraft plant.

## Pick 'n' Shovel Poems

## Allowance

A child of eight was brought before a judge.  
Her clothes were made of silk, and wool, with fur  
A guardian accompanied the child:  
Beside her seat, he turned and bowed to her.

Allowance for the child? The judge decreed:  
Six hundred dollars monthly, free of fees,  
The little girl to get this sum as Due—  
A part of lawful tribute Wealth-receives.

A child of eight, in rags and holey shoes,  
Was slowly picking cotton in a field.  
In tears, she dragged her feet from plant to plant.  
Her eyes acknowledged wounds that can't be healed.

Allowance for the child? A shack, some straw  
Where wind and rain and hunger often came,  
To see if childhood, shorn of joy by Want,  
Would hide its aching heart and take the blame.

## Political Kidnap Aimed at Labor Candidate in L.A.

(Continued from Page 1)

natures collected by Mrs. Sally Egner as invalid when she signed an affidavit that she had registered at an address different from where she was living.

Capital of Political Gangsters  
Evidence shows Mrs. Egner was intimidated, threatened by persons interested in keeping Johnson of the ballot kidnapped and is being held captive at the present time.

Johnson's petition for the writ charged collusion by City Clerk Dominguez, who refused to give though he later admitted he had given extra ones to other candidates.

Only other 13th District candidate is the reactionary incumbent Darwin W. Tate, who is known to have a strong political machine capable of using all dirty methods of removing a powerful opponent.

Machine Politicians

"This is just another evidence of machine politicians who have become so strong that they will brook no opposition whatsoever and will stoop to gangster methods of fraud and kidnapping in order to prevent a people's candidate from opposing them in the election," declared Johnson.

"It is acts of this kind, which if not counteracted by strong protest of the people, undermine our democratic form of government and make it easy to establish a Fascist dictatorship."

Prof of Gangsterism

Ample proof that Mrs. Egner was threatened and intimidated is shown by many affidavits obtained from friends of Mrs. Egner declaring that she did live at the address where she was registered.

Though her affidavit declares she really lived at 2127 Darwin Ave.—and address different from that given in her registration—it has been proved she worked at the Darwin address, and that the original address, 2123 Thomas St. was her residence.

Persons living in the same house where Mrs. Egner lived, state that it was her home, proving her registration had been correct.

Mrs. Egner Disappears

The Los Angeles County Relief Administration has been paying Mrs. Egner's rent at the Thomas St. address.

Affidavits also state that on the day following Mrs. Egner's disappearance, two men representing themselves as "deputies of the Clerk's office" removed Mrs. Egner's trunk and personal belongings to a Sunset Blvd. hotel where Mrs. Egner, in the company of a man and woman, registered, paid a week's rent in advance, but slept in the room only one night. The trunk is still there; Mrs. Egner has never returned.

No Trace Found

An intensive search for her has failed.

"There is no question in my mind but what she is being held captive by persons interested in keeping my name off the ballot," Johnson declared.

On March 2, Johnson was called by County Registrar of Voters.

San Francisco

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San Francisco

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ters Kerr who told him Mrs. Egner was in his office requesting signatures she collected cancelled because of her affidavit.

Kerr Is Involved

When Johnson arrived at Kerr's office, Mrs. Egner had a man beside her grasping her arm. Kerr was saying, "Do I understand, Mrs. Egner, that you wish me to cancel your signatures?"

Despite her "companion" whispered orders to reply "yes," Mrs. Egner made no answer.

"I think Mrs. Egner should talk to her attorney before she speaks," said Johnson.

Kerr repeated his question. Again Mrs. Egner, whose face showed she had been crying, made no reply, and again Johnson said she should have an attorney. Finally Kerr asked who her attorney was, and Johnson declared he was.

Angrily, the man holding Mrs. Egner claimed he was her attorney.

"Well," Johnson replied, "I have been handling work for Mrs. Egner for several months and this is the first time I have known that I was fired."

Kerr again questioned Mrs. Egner. She faltered, "Well, I guess so." She was thereupon hurried out of the office, and since then, has not been seen.

These gangster-like methods have not been the only evidence of strong forces working against Johnson. From the very beginning, fraud and bribery were at work. A Mr. Lacavera, reported to be Tate's paid stooge, came on the scene offering five cents for signatures collected for Johnson.

Four petition lists—99 names were taken up by him but not turned in to Johnson.

Fake Petitions

Lacavera's contact was Louis B. Carr, chairman of the Lincoln High School Committee of the United Progressive Democrats who have endorsed Johnson.

Lacavera asked Carr if he would get persons to collect signatures for Johnson at five cents per name. Carr was able to get two of Johnson's petitions for Lacavera, who had already six petitions.

These petitions were fake! Johnson had obtained 20 petitions from City Clerk Dominguez. None of the 20 had been given out until Carr gave Lacavera two. In some way—obviously by crooked means—Lacavera obtained six petitions.

San Francisco

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# The Lessons of the Maritime Strike

By WM. SCHNEIDERMAN  
(Conclusion)

Summing up the role of the Party in the strike, its main task was THE STRUGGLE FOR UNITY, which was the key to the victory finally won. Before and during the strike, the Party mobilized all its forces to actively participate in every phase of the struggle. Every Communist Party member and sympathizer in the maritime unions participated actively in some phase of strike activity, whether on the picket lines, in the various committees for organizing relief, publicity, finances, picketing, and in the Joint Strike Committees in every port.

But more important still, the tasks of the Communists and all progressive elements was in the fight to maintain unity between the licensed and unlicensed groups, between the seamen and longshoremen, and between the maritime strikers and the rest of the labor movement.

## Fight for Unity Successful

On every question of policy, this was the main consideration. The strike was won because the fight for unity was successful, because the membership of the Maritime Federation, at every crucial point of the strike, was mobilized against every splitting maneuver and red-baiting, and never allowed itself to be stampeded into a position where that unity was broken, even by leaders such as Lundberg, who often influenced some sections of the seamen with his syndicalist policies.

The spirit of solidarity spread far beyond the ranks of the maritime workers. It was evident not only in the tremendous financial and moral support of the shore-side unions, but in the slogan which has become a byword in the San Francisco Labor Council: "Union men will never pass through a picket line."

As a result, for over three months the teamsters, although under reactionary leadership, lived up to the great traditions of 1934 and refused to go through the picket lines not only of the maritime workers, but also of the striking warehousemen and the shipyard workers, contributing greatly to the successful conclusion of these strikes.

It was also the influence of the maritime unions, together with other unions rapidly becoming progressive, that ousted Edward Vandeleur, notorious for his sell-out of the San Francisco General Strike of 1934, from the leadership of the Central Labor Council in the recent elections, and was instrumental in electing Harry Bridges and a number of other militants and progressives into leading positions.

## Some Shortcomings

But the work of the Communists and their progressive allies in the maritime unions had a number of shortcomings also. Precisely because of the increasing influence of the Party among the workers, the reactionaries in the maritime unions who have lain low for a long time because their policies were discredited, seize upon every difficult situation as a favorable opportunity to again raise their heads and voices, and with the most unscrupulous demagoguery, posing as super-militants at times, carry on an unceasing struggle against the progressive leadership, and seek to confuse the membership and other progressives in the unions.

Unfortunately the policies and tactics of Lundberg and his immediate circle of followers, who are influenced by the IWW ideology and poisoned by the handful of Trotskyite disrupters, are playing into the hands of these reactionary elements and thereby endangering the unity of the Federation.

We must avoid, however, a narrow sectarian approach; it would be wrong to lump these syndicalist elements, among whom are honest elements who are confused and misled, with the reactionaries.

The Communists have often allowed themselves to be provoked by their red-baiting into personal attacks, instead of sticking to discussion of policy in order to bring the issues clearly to the rank and file.

Throughout the strike it was shown that once the issues were clear to the membership, red-baiting and disruption were defeated. Only when the Communists were not able to raise the issue clearly of preserving unity on the basis of a correct policy, was it possible for such a policy to receive temporary setbacks in the Sailors' Union and among some of the licensed men.

This requires patient and persistent work on our part. The fight for unity will not be an easy one; there are a number of difficult questions ahead, in connection with the coming I.L.A. District Convention in May, and the Maritime Federation Convention in June. The main ques-

tion, of consolidating the gains and further cementing the unity of the seamen and longshoremen, requires vigilance against any adventurist policies.

There are, for instance, weaknesses in the shipowners' may attempt to use against the unions, and the seamen will have to fight against these attempts; there may be recurring questions of "hot cargo" from the Gulf and from Vancouver, due to jurisdictional disputes arising out of the strikebreaking policy of Ryan, Hunter, and Scharrenberg, and the wholesale revoking of charters of rank and file locals.

## On Guard

While mobilizing the maximum amount of support of the Maritime Federation in support of the seamen's struggles, and of the Atlantic and Gulf Coast rank and file, the unions must be on guard against any adventurist actions which threaten the unity of the Federation or might precipitate a major struggle for which the unions are not prepared.

The continuation and intensification of the fight for a National Maritime Federation is especially important now because of the possibility of a convention of the ISU being called this year.

The ISU officialdom is in a precarious position because of the great advances made by the rank and file on the East Coast, and by the failure of Hunter and Scharrenberg to accomplish their splitting purpose on the West Coast when they revoked the charter of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific. Any move to break away from the ISU and AFL at this time, any let-up in the fight to regain the Sailors' Union charter, would play into the hands of Hunter and Scharrenberg.

Yet there are tendencies on the West Coast and the Gulf, which are being encouraged by Lundberg, to organize an independent union of the seamen; in a vague, confused way the syndicalist elements are also advocating that the Maritime Federation become an independent, industrial union, a sort of "one big union" on a national scale. Although every such move has been blocked from the very beginning, thus far, the danger is not yet over.

It is necessary to carry on a campaign for the participation of the West Coast unions in the ISU convention, for the return of the Sailors' Union charter and their participation with full voting rights in the convention, and for every possible assistance to the struggle of the Atlantic and Gulf rank and file for democratic control of their unions. Only in this way will the fight for a National Maritime Federation be furthered.

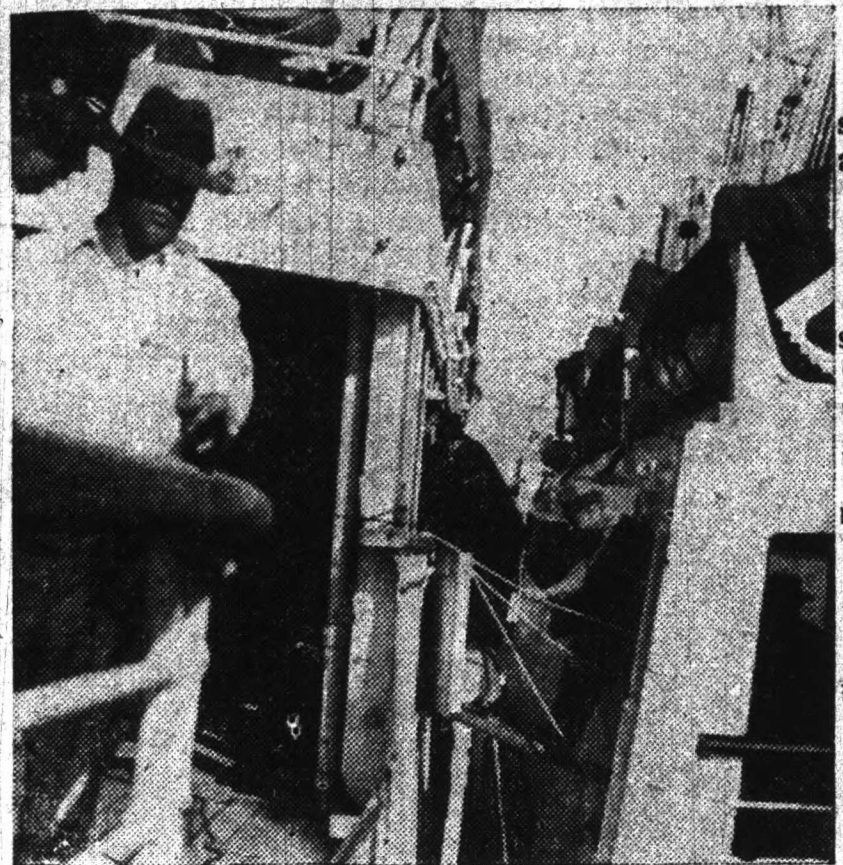
Ryan met the growing sentiment for a National Maritime Federation with a dishonest maneuver, announcing during the strike that William Green and the AFL executive council had agreed to form a Maritime Trades Dept. of the AFL. The San Francisco District Council of the Maritime Federation answered this quite correctly, when it declared that it would welcome such a move, provided it was a really all-inclusive federation of maritime unions, with full expression of the rank and file and democratic control of the membership to determine policies, and not a bureaucratic clique of top officials which would only sabotage the unifying of the maritime workers on a national scale. Green, Ryan and Hunter, of course, cannot be depended upon to build a genuine national maritime federation, when one remembers their shameful role in the strike.

## Role of the Government

From the first, the Party and the "Western Worker" had to warn and fight against the strong illusions among the workers that Roosevelt was going to "crack down" on the shipowners, while at the same time organizing mass pressure on the Administration to "Stop the Ship Subsidies!" The campaign in the labor movement around this slogan undoubtedly had its effect on the Administration, and did force some gestures from Washington. But it soon became clear to every striker that the "friendly gestures" of Roosevelt, Perkins, and McGrady would not win the strike, and that the Administration did not exert all the powers it had to put pressure on the shipowners.

In fact, at the very beginning of the strike, the U. S. Maritime Commission, appointed by President Roosevelt, became notorious for its open siding with the employers; since the strike, it has been revealed that the admirals on the Commission are openly favoring a company union for the licensed personnel of the seamen. Secretary of Commerce Roper and his lieutenant, Weaver, faithfully served the shipowners at every turn, in red-baiting attacks on the unions. Assistant Secretary of Labor McGrady, who was sent to San

## Joining The Maritime Strike



SCENES SHOWING seamen on ships arriving at West Coast ports being informed of the strike and directed to strike headquarters. Not a ship moved in the 99 days of the great West Coast maritime strike; solidarity of all unions was one of the greatest achievements in entire history of American labor movement

Francisco for the first two months of the strike, described the strike as "sheer madness," and carried on a constant campaign for arbitration, although he could not always do it openly.

The catagoric refusal of the unions to consider arbitration prevented the Administration from yielding to the combined efforts of the shipowners, the Mayors' conference, and the newspapers to force arbitration on the unions.

Since the strike, a dangerous move to force arbitration on the maritime industry, going even further than the Railway Labor Act which has been held up as a "model," was made in the form of the Guffey Bill introduced into Congress, which in addition to compulsory arbitration clauses, is aimed directly at Harry Bridges under the guise of excluding non-citizens from representing the unions in collective bargaining. The whole labor movement must be aroused to fight against these anti-union strike-breaking measures.

## Farmer-Labor Party

The Party and the "Western Worker" carried on a continuous campaign for a Farmer-Labor Party, linking up the maritime workers' struggles with the need for independent political action on a local, state, and national scale. During the election campaign, it utilized every possible opportunity to broadcast its position on the radio, dealing with the political aspects of the maritime strike, in San Pedro, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Seattle.

Only one such broadcast was suppressed in San Francisco, and that was the widely-advertised address of Roy Hudson, on the

for discussion among the strikers.

The majority of the maritime workers have not yet been won for a Farmer-Labor party; this is a great shortcoming of the work of the Communists, but there is no doubt that there is a greater understanding among the maritime workers on the need for labor's independent political action, and that the time is not far off when they will align themselves with other progressive forces for the building of a Farmer-Labor party, and will be in the forefront of an American People's Front against reaction, Fascism, and war.

One of the great weaknesses of our work was among the Negroes. In San Pedro, the I.L.A. progressives inherited from the former reactionary leadership a situation where the Negroes were practically excluded from working on the waterfront, with the exception of the Cotton Compress Local.

The progressives made some attempts to fight against this policy of discrimination, but insufficiently.

## Work Among Negroes

The result was that the employers attempted to exploit this justified resentment among the Negroes to incite them against the maritime unions. Had an attempt been made to open the port of San Pedro, as was done during the 1934 strike, this might have had disastrous consequences.

Unfortunately, the National Negro Congress in Los Angeles did not react correctly to this threat, and failed to carry on an active campaign among the Negroes in support of the strike; there was resistance to this even among some Commu-

## Where San Pedro Strikers Were Fed



eve of election day. It made special efforts, both before and during the strike, to bring the waterfront workers to Party mass meetings for Browder, Ford, and Hudson, and at Nov. 7th and Lenin Memorial meetings, with some success.

The effects of the campaign for a Farmer-Labor Party were reflected in a number of ways. The Sailors' Union in San Pedro adopted a Farmer-Labor Party resolution. I.L.A. Local 38-79 of San Francisco went on record in support of Labor's Non-Partisan League and independent political action. A number of maritime unions participated in the California People's Legislative Conference, one of the broadest united front movements ever organized by the labor and progressive forces.

Organized Labor in San Francisco and Oakland launched a campaign to repeal the Anti-Picketing Ordinances, and these measures were placed on the ballot in the special spring elections. (It is reported that as a result of the campaign to register for these elections, eight hundred seamen in the San Francisco Bay area registered, who had never voted before).

Before the end of the strike, the issue of independent political action, especially in relation to the fight against the Copeland Act, became a central question

nists who should have been the most active leaders of the Negro people to mobilize support for the maritime unions.

The Party made strenuous efforts to carry on such a campaign among the Negroes during the strike, but our big mistake was in waiting so long to take up the fight against discrimination in San Pedro.

In San Francisco, due to a correct policy adopted by the I.L.A. against Negro discrimination since 1934, there was a better situation. A number of Negro workers were included on the leading committees of the strike.

The National Negro Congress played an important role in winning the sympathy of the Negro population in the San Francisco Bay area for the strikers; John P. Davis, its national secretary, was invited to speak at strikers' meetings while on his California tour. But even here, too much was taken for granted. The shipowners' agent, Lee Holman and the armed thugs in his strikebreaking company-union agency made repeated attempts to provoke warfare between Negro and white workers.

Holman recruited a group of misled Negroes with the promise of jobs, and marched them down to the waterfront at the conclusion of the strike, to "demand jobs." His purpose was to pre-

cipitate a struggle which would alienate the sympathy of the Negro population toward the maritime unions.

The Communists in the unions must take the lead in fighting against every form of discrimination toward Negroes, and must especially be vigilant to expose and fight against the under-cover campaign of discrimination carried on by some reactionary elements in the I.L.A. The Party must also carry on patient work among the seamen to break down the prejudice and discrimination against the Filipinos, pointing out that unless this attitude is changed, the employers will take advantage of it to create a reserve of strikebreakers against the union.

Another phase of the strike which must be mentioned in the role of the women, particularly in the I.L.A. Auxiliary, in actively participating in the organization of relief and other phases of strike activity, and the work of the young Communists among the youth, in organizing sports and other recreational and educational activity for the strikers around the Union Recreation Center on the waterfront.

The "Maritime Worker," weekly organ of the Waterfront Section of the Party, and the "Western Worker," were indispensable weapons in the fight for maintaining the unity of the strikers and in clarifying questions of policy, as well as explaining the broader political aspects of the struggle. The "Western Worker" was distributed in thousands of copies, regularly, in the union halls and on the picket lines, and was as widely read and discussed by the strikers as was the "Voice of the Federation," in spite of numerous attempts to bar it from the union halls.

The role and influence of the Party was reflected especially in the recruiting of over 300 new members to the Party from the strikers' ranks (nearly 2,000 new members were recruited into the Party throughout California, during the approximate period of the strike). The Party organization as a whole reacted well to its tasks during the strike.

Learning from the experience of 1934, during the reign of terror and the vigilante raids, the Party was prepared if necessary to continue its work under emergency conditions. Nearly every section and unit was in a position to issue its own leaflets if necessary, and to continue uninterrupted its activity in the neighborhoods and factories. Open mass activity was carried on during the whole 3-month period. To a lesser extent, this was also true in San Pedro, where in 1934 the terror had made this impossible. The Workers' Book Shop in San Pedro was repeatedly raided and wrecked by vigilantes, but the growing strength of the labor movement in San Pedro and its militancy made it very unhealthy for vigilantes.

The Party during the latter half of the strike organized more systematic, political education for its new members, particularly among the seamen, in the form of the new members' classes, unit discussions, and the distribution of Party literature, but a great deal more of this could have been done. Another big shortcoming was the weakness in recruiting and political education among longshoremen.

Our tasks are not ended now that the strike is over. The Party must consolidate the gains it has made, politically and organizationally. The Communists in the maritime unions must rally all honest, progressive forces around them in the fight for maintaining and solidifying the unity of the workers, regardless of all difficulties and obstacles placed in the path. The Communists are not out to "control" or "capture" the unions for some sinister purpose. Our aim is to fight for such a policy as will strengthen and unify the ranks of the workers in their immediate struggles for the advancement of their economic and political interests, and to go forward to the building of an American People's Front which can defeat the threatening forces of reaction, fascism, and war.

The successful conclusion of the strike, and the far-reaching influence of the maritime unions in the labor movement of the Pacific Coast and nationally recall to mind the jubilant prediction, "Labor is Licked," made by a leading capitalist of San Francisco at the conclusion of the 1934 General Strike. These are his words as quoted in the press:

"The strike is the best thing that ever happened to San Francisco. It's solving the labor problem for years to come, perhaps forever. When this nonsense is out of the way and the men have been driven back to their jobs, we won't have to worry about them any more. Labor is licked."

He proved to be a false prophet indeed!

—The End—

## SACTO. LABOR THINKS LABOR PARTY NEEDED

And It Tells Just Why It Feels That Way About It

SACRAMENTO — Organized labor tells why it thinks a Labor Party would be a good thing, in the following resolution passed by its Federated Trades and Labor Council recently:

WHEREAS: Officials of the City and County of Sacramento have consistently followed a policy of indifference to the welfare of organized labor, and,

Anti-Labor Acts WHEREAS: This policy was conspicuously demonstrated recently when, after having received the unanimous endorsement of this Council for a position on the Civic Service Board, the President of this Federated Trades Council was eliminated as a qualified candidate by the chance tossing of a coin, and,

WHEREAS: Under the conditions that now prevail it is impossible to freely exercise our most fundamental rights of free speech, of free press and assembly, and our public declarations against any interference whatever with the free exercise of all of these rights, which are specifically guaranteed everyone of our citizens by both the Constitution of the U. S. and of the State of California, and also in spite of our every effort toward the repeal of all such restrictive and anti-labor legislation, and;

WHEREAS: It therefore becomes apparent that the only effective way to promote the welfare of labor and of all progressive people is to follow the example of the Alameda County and Los Angeles County Central Labor Councils in the formation of a Labor Party for independent political action.

## Endorse Labor Party

Therefore, be it RESOLVED: That the Federated Trades Council go on record endorsing such a Labor Party, and that we immediately elect a committee of five with instructions to contact all labor, liberal and progressive groups, inviting them to unite with our committee by selecting, at least one member each from all such groups to serve with our committee in what shall be known as the Promotional Committee for Progressive Political Action, and be it further

RESOLVED: That we recommend to this Promotional Committee that a Labor Party conference be held in Sacramento not later than May 30, 1937, the purpose of which conference shall be to select and nominate candidates for all available positions for 1937 election and to arrange for their support and to lay plans for any future political activity of affiliation that at the time may be deemed advisable.

## Now Dept. Store People Unionize

SAN FRANCISCO — Success has been so great in the drive to organize department store employees here that sponsors of the drive have asked for a separate charter for the Department Store Employees Union.

Over 200 applications have come in. Preliminary meetings were held under auspices of the Retail Shoe and Textile Salesmen Union, Local 410. A meeting held last Tuesday was addressed by President Warren G. Denton of the Warehousemen Union and Fred West of the Window Cleaners.

Marion Brown, organizer, has received the cooperation of Carmen Lucia of the Millinery Workers.

## How the Heart of Donald Douglas Beats for Workers

SANTA MONICA — How the heart of Donald Douglas, wealthy owner of the Douglas Aircraft Company here, bleeds for the workers in his plant was clearly illustrated here Thursday, February 25, when someone mentioned the possibility of the workers being burned to death in the event police fired into the plant inflammables, and "kind-hearted" Donald declared that he didn't "give a damn what happens to the workers."

Overhearing the remark, a worker pointed out that this was the same Mr. Douglas who had out of his great humanitarian heart he had worked night and day to build the company union, Douglas Employees' Association, all for the welfare of the workers.

## FARMERS HELP OREGON LABOR

Fight On Reactionary Bill In Legislature

SALEM, Ore.—Labor has an important stake in two proposals before the present session of the Oregon legislature. First, to defeat the measure, supported by big merchants, industrialists and wealthy farmers, to provide for compulsory arbitration and executive control of strikes. The other, to pass state legislation similar to the Wagner labor relations law.

Compulsory Arbitration The reactionary proposal would require industrial disputes to be submitted to a state board of conciliation, appointed by the governor, 30 days before a strike or lockout could occur, during which period picketing would be unlawful. Other bills supported by the same clique would outlaw sympathetic strikes and require registration of unions with the state corporation commissioner. The anti-labor bills were reported out unfavorably by the house committee on labor and industry, and after a brief debate were referred back to the committee.

The State Grange has joined with organized labor in opposing the Tory bills, citing the similarity of the economic plight of farmer and worker and asserting that to give the governor arbitrary power to destroy an organization would negate the principles of democracy. The Grange is sponsoring a bill to provide for a farm labor board of conciliation, which would forbid strikes but which would aid in speeding arbitration and setting up temporary wage scales during critical harvest seasons. The board would be selected by the Farmers' Union, State Grange and State Federation of Labor.

The bill backed by labor and progressives would create an Oregon labor relations board of three members, empowered to bar company unions, ban unfair labor practices by employers, guarantee workers full liberty of joining a union and provide for collective bargaining. Circuit courts would enforce board orders. The bill states that economic stability and prosperity can come only through universal collective bargaining.

## Contra Costa Hits Discrimination

RICHMOND—Leaders in the labor movement in Contra Costa County drew up and signed the following resolution dealing with racial discrimination in the organization of the unorganized. The resolution follows:

Whereas, We, the undersigned members of the A.F. of L., believe in organization of all workers and in the sanctity of human rights, and

Whereas, We are opposed to discrimination being used in the organization of the unorganized with reference to race, creed, color, or nationality, do hereby Resolve, That we go on record as endorsing and approving of the organization of agriculture workers on a statewide basis, without discrimination because of race, creed, color, or nationality in the organization of unorganized workers.

signed: JAMES N. WILSON, R. LAXON, E. G. HOCKING, W. VALDE, SAM W. HERROD, JOE L. DEVANEY, VIOLA COX.

## Iron Workers Want Punishment of Those Guilty in Bridge

SAN FRANCISCO—"The Iron Workers feel that labor should see that those responsible for the Golden Gate Bridge disaster, which killed 10 men, should not be whitewashed," Bill Sanders, of Structural Ornamental Union Workers' Union told the Central Labor Council delegates here.

## This Didn't Help Repeal of Anti-Picket Ordinance

SAN FRANCISCO—One way not to help repeal of the anti-picket law was practiced by Hugo Ernest, head of the Culinary Alliance. Ernest informed the Labor Council here that he had had all pickets withdrawn in the course of the drive for repeal "so as not to cause any rioting."

## PICKET SUB PLANT

GROTON, Conn.—After their forcible eviction, sit-downers at the Electric Boat Co. (submarine plant) have transferred their picketing to outside the plant. The CIO is leading them.

## THEY HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN A GREAT LEADER

L.A. Molders Call All Unions to Get Back of Tom Mooney

LOS ANGELES—Tom Mooney hasn't been forgotten by his fellow unionists of the Los Angeles Molders Union, Local 364. His release is demanded in a resolution passed by that local:

WHEREAS, Tom Mooney has been incarcerated in San Quentin prison for twenty years, the victim of a vicious anti-union frame-up, conceived and effected by certain unprincipled special interests in California; and,

Proven Innocent WHEREAS, It has long been known and fully proved that Tom Mooney is innocent of the crime for which he was convicted, and that he was railroaded to prison by means of perjured testimony known to and, in fact, contrived at by the District Attorney who prosecuted the case, and that evidence favorable to Mooney was wilfully suppressed by the District Attorney; and,

WHEREAS, Tom Mooney was denied every semblance of a fair and impartial trial and was convicted, not for the crime he was alleged to have committed, but because of his active, militant work in the labor movement and organizing the unorganized; and,

WHEREAS, Three Presidential Commissions studied the case and published conclusions that Tom Mooney was denied a fair trial and convicted by means of Perjured testimony; and,

WHEREAS, All persons and groups interested in seeing justice done in this county believe that the frightful wrong inflicted upon Tom Mooney must be remedied, and the State of California wipe the black mark of the Mooney case from its record,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That Local 374, IMU of NA, call upon the Legislature of the State of California to immediately pass the measure now before it, calling for a full and complete pardon for Tom Mooney, and the

LOCAL 374, IMU of NA hereby calls upon the Legislature of the State of California to grant said full and complete pardon to Tom Mooney immediately; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be sent to each and every member of the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, and to Tom Mooney, and to the Press.

CARL A. SCHROEDER, (Signature) President, R. H. McDOWELL, (Signature) Secretary.

## S.F. Molders Win Best Minimum

SAN FRANCISCO—The Molders Union here has won the highest minimum wage for molders in the country—\$8.20 a day.

The union molders in this city will now work a 40-hour week, with time and a half for overtime. Minimum wage for helpers will be 80 cents an hour.

## Cops Are Escorting Scabs Into Struck Richmond Cannery

RICHMOND—Police are now escorting scabs through the picket line of the 200 warehousemen who have been on strike for two months against the Felice and Perelli Cannery here. The Warehousemen Union demands union recognition in the strike.

## Indict McGuffin In Framed Charge On Copeland Book

SAN FRANCISCO—In an obvious frame-up, a federal grand jury has indicted Sam McGuffin, militant seaman, on charges of "stealing a continuous discharge book" Feb. 9, "in violation of the Copeland Act." McGuffin was arrested while he was chairman of a sailors' meeting in San Pedro, on charges brought by a man known as Ferrand Hunt. Hunt is not known by local seamen. A recent grand jury found a "true bill" and his case is due for a hearing Saturday. McGuffin is now out on bail furnished by the Sailors' Union of the Pacific.

## Butler Bros. Avoids Strike; Worker Back

SAN FRANCISCO—The big Butler Bros. wholesale merchandising firm got wise to itself this week and reinstated Robert Kane, a member of the Warehousemen's Union. Butler Bros. thus avoided having a strike on its hands.